



A
JOURNEY
THROUGH
ENGLAND.



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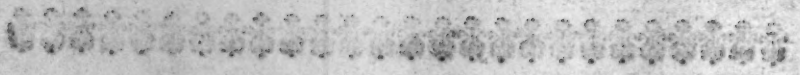
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A

JOURNEY

THROUGH

ENGLAND.



A
JOURNEY
THROUGH
ENGLAND.
IN
Familiar Letters
FROM
A GENTLEMAN Here,
TO
His FRIEND Abroad.

*In Junonis Honorem,
Aptum dicit equis Argos, diteisq; Mycænas.
Me nec tam patiens Lacedæmon,
Nec tam Larissæ percussit campus opimæ
Quam domus Albanæ resonantis.*

Hor.

L O N D O N :

Printed by J. ROBERTS, for T. CALDECOTT,
at the *Sun* against St. Dunstan's Church
in Fleetstreet. 1714.

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JOURNEY
THROUGH
ENGLAND.

IN
FAMILIAR LECTURES
FROM
A GENTLEMAN HERE.

To
His First Abroad.

538



LONDON
Printed by J. Roberts for E. Cadell
at the Swan against St. Dunstons Church
in Fleet Street 1714.



TO THE
Young Nobility and Gentry
OF
GREAT-BRITAIN.

Gentlemen,

HIS Treatise of A Journey through
England, claims a double Title to
your Protection and Favour, since it
not only does Justice to a Nation
that hath held the Balance of Europe for so
many Ages, and made the most conspicuous and
shining Figure of any in the World, by her Arms
and her Councils, during the last Wars; but it
also gives you a full Idea of your own Country,
and prepares you to make suitable Parallels, when
you shall go to Travel into other Nations; and
will likewise guide you in your Conversation a-
mongst Foreigners, to keep up the true Value of
your own Kingdom, and indeed move you to hasten

your Return to it with the greater Pleasure and Satisfaction.

WHEN Young Noblemen go to France, the Magnificence of the Court, the Pompous Equipages, the Sumptuous Palace of Versailles, and the shining Rattle of Paris, usually dazzle their Eyes, and cast a Disguise over the real Idea of the Place. But you must remove into the Country, and see the Penury of the Peasants, and Country Gentlemen, on every side, and then turn your Eyes which way you can, and you will soon find the vast difference between France and England. At Rome it's the same; and round Vienna worse.

MY worthy Lords and Gentlemen, it may seem strange to you, perhaps, that seeing there have been so many printed Voyages to Italy, so many Tours of France, the Low-Countries, Germany, Spain, and even of Muscovy, Denmark, and the more Barren Northern Countries, there should never yet have any Thing of this Kind been Undertaken here; since Great-Britain affords a much larger Mixture of Curiosities in the Seats, Parks, and Gardens, in the Diversions and Manners; and, above all, in the Excellent Constitution of her Government, than any Country upon the Face of the Earth.

I SAW, indeed, a Book printed some Years ago in French, by one James Boreel, called *Les Delices de la Grande Bretagne*; but the Author
of

of it certainly had never been in England himself; for the *Whole* is only a wild Rhapsody collected from *Cambden*, and some other Authors, who have wrote the Natural History of distinct Counties.

THE Person that presents you with this, hath been so exact as to examine every Thing himself, and has inserted nothing but what he has seen; therefore he hopes to give you as much Pleasure in the Reading this First Volume, as he really had in seeing the Matters contained in it; he designs to make the rest of England the Subject of his Second Volume; and Scotland that of his Third.

THE Author carries on this Work with the greater Chearfulness, because he has found that there is no Country in Europe where a Stranger Travels with the same Advantages; for altho' the English give no great Encouragement to Strangers to settle among them for Life; yet there is no Nation under Heaven, where a Gentleman-Traveller meets with so much Humanity, Civility, and good Entertainment; free from the Vanity and Insincerity of the French, the Haughtiness of the Spaniard, or the Moroseness of the Dutch; nor where Conversation is so open, frank, and easy, without Restraint or Dissimulation.

THE Asiatics distinguish the Europeans by the Name of Franks, because of this honest Disposition; but, alas! that Noble Spirit is now to be found only in England: Inquisitions in Church or State have banished it from every other Country.

AT Paris an Innuendo in Civil or Ecclesiastical Matters sends a Man to the Bastile, be he of what Nation soever; and there he lies, without, perhaps, so much as a single Examination, during the King's Pleasure.

AT Rome Conversation is limited to Architecture, Painting, and Antiquities, by reason of the Ecclesiastical Inquisition, which imprisons Arbitrarily, as they do also all over Spain.

AND at Venice (though a Republick) you are in the same Danger from the State-Inquisition.

I KNEW an English Gentleman, who, in his way from Vienna to Venice, hap'ned to Dine at Lubiano, the Capital of Corinthia, in a mixt Company; and the Discourse at Table running on the Sovereignty that the State of Venice possessed of the Adriatick-Sea, which some there said was the Wife of the State, and that the Doge married her every Year, in token that no Ships of War of any Nation had Right, without violating

violating that Marriage-Bed, to enter those Seas; the Englishman replied very pleasantly, That then he was sure the French King had made the State of Venice an arrant Cuckold; for to his Knowledge, his Ships of War had made several Prizes upon the Imperialists in those Seas.

ON his Arrival at Venice he was sent for by one of the Inquisitors of State, and after a very handsome and modest Reprimand, was advised to be more Cautious for the future of speaking of Sovereignities, for they had long Ears, and heavy Hands.

EVEN the Republick of Holland gives an Absolute Power to their Council of State, over the Persons of Free-Speakers; and there are many Examples of Gentlemen that have been imprisoned for several Years together without ever knowing their Crimes.

BUT in this gallant Country of Liberty, a Gentleman may argue with Freedom on any Subject whatsoever, without the fear of Inquisitions, or the Danger of his Person.

For, my Noble and Worthy Friends,

YOUR Constitution is willing every Day to be informed; and it is mended every Time your Parliament sits, for that never pretends to Infalibility, as some other States do, yet is now the best in the Universe; and if you continue that Vertue, which at present you seem to have, of
keeping

keeping it up, it will infallibly at last be a Pattern for all the other Nations of the Earth to imitate.

EVERY English Gentleman of Condition ought to go abroad to see the Miseries of the enslaved Part of the World, in order to give him a better Taste and Value for the Constitution of his own Country; and every Father in England that is able, should encourage travelling in his Sons, to settle in them a just Notion of Arbitrary Power; as the Spartans of old shewed their Children their drunken Servants, to make them in Love with Sobriety.

YOUR Habeas Corpus, My worthy Lords and Gentleman, is a Jewel possessed no where on Earth but by you; it's your Great Charter which Protects you from the Oppressions of the Mighty, and the Malice of your Neighbours, or Inferiors.

WHAT the Abbot de Bois said, (who was here with the Comte de Tallard in the Reign of King William, and was much caressed by the Nobility and Gentry) when he returned to the Court of France, was a great Glory to this Nation, viz.

THAT

"THAT be believed the English were the
"Happiest People that ever were in the World,
"not only in being governed by Laws which they
"made for themselves, but that every Subject
"was to be judged by Twelve Men of his own
"Rank and Degree, in all Causes; and that a
"King, or Ministry might Accuse, but could
"not Judge or Condemn the Meanest Subject
"there.

THE Great Historian Mezeray of France,
had also this Expression in a Conversation he
had with Mr. Hambden on the Subject of the
English Constitution; which you will find in
the Secret History,

"O Fortunatos nimium, bona si sua norint,
"Angligenas! ———

"We had once in France, (said he,) the
"same Happiness, and the same Privileges which
"you have: Our Laws were made by Repre-
"sentatives of our own chusing; our Money
"was not taken from us, but by our own Con-
"sent; our Kings were subject to the Rules of
"Law and Reason. But now, alas! we are
"Miserable, and all is lost. Think nothing,
"Sir, too Dear to maintain these Precious Ad-
"vantages; and if ever there be Occasion, ven-
"ture your Life, your Estate, and all you have,
"rather than submit to the miserable Condition
"to which you see us reduced.

IT

IT is this happy State of Liberty, that gives you that generous Boldness where-ever you Travel; and it is that Lustre that makes you out-shine Others in all Foreign Courts.

IT was this Spirit, even in the Common Soldiers of your Armies abroad, that made them always Victorious; the same Spirit by which the Antient Romans civilized, and conquered the World.

I HAVE been an Eye-Witness to all your Conquests abroad during the last War, and must do you the Justice to say, that your unwearied Endeavours were rather to make Mankind Free like your selves, than in the least to subject them.

EVERY Battel you won, was only taking off the Yoke from poor Wretches Necks, which they were unable to bear; and to establish their publick Tranquility.

YOUR Great Marlborough was received where-ever Victory led him, not as a Conqueror, but a Deliverer; adored, not so much for his Successes, as for his Justice, Lenity, and Charity. With what Moderation and Humanity did he receive his Prisoners! And what Pity did he shew to their wounded Soldiers!

IN

IN short, what distant Provinces from afar began to lift up their Heads in expectation of having their Fetters struck off by his Victorious Arms? But the Unsearchable, Unfathomable Wisdom of Providence, hath reserved that 'till his own best Time, either as a farther Punishment for their Sins, or for your Unhappy Divisions.

MAY your Glorious Constitution never be destroyed, as that of Rome was, by the Usurpation of an Arbitrary Cæsar; nor may it ever be Undermined, as that of Carthage was, by the Treacherous Councils of a Hanno.

A WISE Man bath told us, that " Tyranny
 " creeps into a State by degrees, as a Hætick
 " Fever in an Human Body; which at first is
 " easy to be cured, but hardly can be known;
 " and after it's thoroughly known, it becomes al-
 " most incurable. But the English know so well
 how to preserve their good Constitution, that
 it's to be hoped they will never be put to the shift
 of repairing a Crazy One; and yet if I had be-
 lieved most of the Inferior Clergy in the Counties
 that I have travelled through, I should have
 thought your Constitution very crazy already;
 for most of them call Revolutions, Rebellions,
 and preach up such a Power in the Person of the
 Prince, as neither the Law of God, nor Man
 ever

ever gave him ; teaching Schemes directly opposite to the very Foundation of your Government.

BUT when I came to London and Tunbridge-Wells, I found that these Notions were broached only by the meaner Sort ; Men of no Birth, but much Ambition ; and were despised by the better and greater Part of the Clergy. Those that are Gentlemen by Birth, and have seen the World, distinguish themselves from these Pedants, that have not seen or heard any Thing out of their own Colleges, by their promoting of Christian Liberty, as well as other Christian Vertues ; and as they have a larger Stock of Knowledge, than these sorts of Monks who get into Churches, so they have a clearer Manner of distinguishing between Just and Unjust, and study to understand the Laws of their Country, as well as the Laws of God, in order to preach them to their Parishioners.

I NEVER met with a polite Gentleman of the Clergy, but who was for the Laws and Liberties of his Country ; nor a sower Clown of a Parson, but was as much for Arbitrary Power, as the Clergy in Sweden and Denmark, and perhaps for the same Reason too.

FOR as that Clergy made those (once Free Nations) the great Slaves to Arbitrary Power, purely for their own Ends and Greatness, so I am
 2 *afraid*

afraid some of your Clergy would stick at nothing for Church Power.

BUT while you keep such a Set of Learned Bishops at the Head of your Church, I hope you are in no Danger from those Boutefeus.

THIS First Volume contains a Part of Norfolk, where the Author Landed; all Suffolk, Essex, Kent, Suffex, Surrey, Berkshire, Middlesex, and the fullest Account of London that ever was given.

HIS Second Volume will begin from Winchester in Hampshire, and go through Wiltshire, to Oxford and Blenheim, and so to the Bath; from whence an Excursion will be made into Cornwall and Wales; and then the Author proceeds through Gloucestershire, Worcestershire, and Shropshire, to the fine County of Northampton, where the many celebrated Seats will take up much of his Time: and from thence he will go to York, and the other Northern Counties of England, which will make this Second Volume larger, and more Entertaining than this First,

HIS Third Volume of Scotland, he is sure will be very Instructive and Diverting; there being more Remains of Royal Palaces, and Antient Monasteries and Abbies in that Kingdom, than any he hath seen in Europe.

AND

AND as the Abundance of Free-Stone, the Cheapness of Masonry, and the Genius of the Gentry, are great Encouragements to Architecture; that Kingdom will not appear so Despicable as some Parts of the World imagine.

IN Fine, as this First Volume meets with Approbation and Encouragement, you may expect the Rest from,

Honourable,

Most Worthy Gentlemen,

A great Admirer of your Constitution,

And a particular Lover of the Nobility,

Church, and Gentry of Great-Britain.

Corrigenda.

PAGE 12. l. 15. *dele of.* P. 22. l. 17. *for* Charter, *r.* Chapter. *Id.* l. 25. *for* this present, *r.* First. P. 23. l. 4. *for* the present, *r.* One. P. 26. l. 23. *for* proper, *r.* Popes. P. 70, 85, 87. *r.* Calhalton. P. 140. l. 13. *dele of.* P. 157. l. 5. *for of,* *r.* to. P. 169. l. 17. *for is,* *r.* are. P. 206. l. 18 *for* Markers, *r.* Merchants. *Id.* l. 22. *for* Post, *r.* Port. In the Index, P. iv. l. 13. *r.* the Present Duke, Captain of the Band of Pensioners. *Id.* *dele the* 15th line. P. xv. l. 4. *for* Fellours, *r.* Taylor.



LETTER I.

LONDON, Octob. 24. 1712.

SIR,



WE have often, in our Travels, admired why *Englishmen* should be so fond of seeing other Countries; and yet none of them have been at the Pains to give *Us* *Foreigners* any tolerable Account of their own. How often have we reflected with Pity, that a Nation, which has made the greatest Figure in *Europe*, during our Time, should be so little known in the World!

THIS, Sir, you know, made me promise, that on a Peace, I wou'd undertake that Voyage: And by what I have yet seen, I must own to be very much worth the Pains. I promise you to write nothing trifling, to borrow nothing from Books; but give you every thing, as I see and examine them upon the Place.

B

To

To begin then, Sir ; I embark'd at the *Brill* in the Pacquet-Boat, which goeth from thence twice a Week, where the Conveniencies are tolerable, but very dear : We were design'd for *Harwich*, but by contrary Winds, after Two Days tossing at Sea, we were driven to *Tarmouth*-Roads, where I was glad to get a-shoar, leaving my Servant and Baggage to proceed in the Pacquet-Boat to *Harwich*.

TARMOUTH is a pretty clean Town, walled round about with an old Wall, and lying between its Harbour and the Sea, makes a sort of *Peninsula*. The Key, which lies towards the Continent, is a fine Street, very long and very large, with very good Houses fronting it. I could hardly think my self out of *Holland* here, there were such an Infinite Number of Fishing-Boats in the Harbour, and so many Hands at Work in Curing of their Herrings.

THE Street on the Side towards the Sea is also very large, the Market-Place is in it, the Church, and a fine Hospital. What they call their Coaches here, is very comical. It is a Wheel-barrow drawn by one Horse, without any Covering, in which they carry you all over the Town, and from the Sea-Side, for Six-pence.

THIS Town sends Two Deputies to Parliament ; and, as in *Holland*, the present Members are both Merchants and Inhabitants in the Place. King *Charles II.* created a Neighbouring

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ing Family of the Name of *Paſton*, Earls of this Place, by which Title they are Peers of the Kingdom.

I CANNOT leave *Tarmouth* without telling you, that the Inns are not near ſo clean as in *Holland*: I had a good Bed, but indifferent Wine, and coarſe Food.

I DESIGNED from thence to go Poſt for *Harwich*; but being inform'd, that the ſo much Celebrated *Bury-Fair* was the Week after, I immediately reſolv'd to take that in my Way; and to that end hir'd a Coach, which in a Day and a half, through a pleaſant Country full of Oaks, brought me thither.

BURT, the *Montpelier* of *England*, lies on a riſing Ground, which over-looks an open fine Country; and where live abundance of Gentry. There are alſo a great many good Inns; but thoſe made Uſe of only for the Equipage and Attendance of the Neighbouring Nobility and Gentry, when they come to Town: the Gentry eſteeming it below them to lodge in them. There are Two very good Coffee-Houſes, and but one Tavern for the Burghers. There are the Ruins of a vaſt Abbey here, and Two very Large and Noble Churches.

BETWEEN the Abbey and the Town is a large Plain, call'd the *Angel-Hill*, where the Fair is kept; and on the Skirts of this Hill are the beſt of the Gentlemens Houſes: And in the Middle the Fair is kept in Tents.

THIS Fair lasts a Fortnight; and all the Neighbouring Nobility and Gentry come there every Afternoon, where they divert themselves in Ruffling till it is time to go to the Comedy, which is acted here every Night; and afterwards go to the Assemblies, which are always in some Gentleman's House or other, during the Fair.

I MUST own, I never saw a fairer Assembly of Beauties in any Part of the World, than at this Fair; which seldom concludes without some considerable Matches or Intrigues: And indeed it is more a Market for Ladies, than Merchandizes. Strangers are extremely well received here; and we *Chevaliers Errants* have often had very good Success. The Duke and Dutchess of *Grafton*, the Lord and Lady *Cornwallis*, the Lord and Lady *Hervey*, the Family of the late Lord *Fermain*, are the constant Ornaments of this Fair; besides an Infinite Number of Knights Daughters from *Norfolk*, *Cambridgeshire*, and *Suffolk*, of which this is the Capital, who come here to Market.

I MIXED the Pleasures of the Fair, with that of seeing the Neighbouring Country. I went to *Chevely*, the Seat of the late Lord *Dover*; which for its Situation, Gardens and Parks, vies with any thing we have seen abroad. *Euston-hall*, the Seat of the Duke of *Grafton*, and built by the late Lord *Arlington*, whose only Daughter is the present Dutchess, and Mother of the Duke, is a Palace worthy
his

his Quality; and the Parterre as fine as ever I saw. *Rushbrook*, the Ancient Seat of the Family of the *Fermains*, and now belonging to Sir *Robert Davers*, who married the Eldest Daughter of that House, is a Noble Seat, with a Park fit for the Palace of a Prince.

ON the Conclusion of the Fair, I parted with Regret from the Charming Assembly; and took Horses with a Guide to *Ipswich*, where I arrived in Five Hours. I must observe to you, that in my Way I found abundance of Gentlemen's Seats, each with their little Parks stock'd with Deer; a thing very rarely seen abroad: And most of them keep Packs of Hounds for their Diversion.

AFTER seeing this Country, a Stranger will not be surprized at the vast Fleets of Ships, which the *English* send abroad, since this whole County is covered with Oak: And from *Woolpec-bill*, where I pass'd in my Road, and which makes a delicious Prospect, the Country seems an entire Forest.

IPSWICH is a very large Town, situate much like *Rome*, on rising Ground on the Left Hand as you enter in, with a River on the Right, which separates it from some Suburbs, as the *Tyber* doth *Rome* from *St. Peter's*; and enters the Sea much at the same Distance. There are Thirteen Parish-Churches in this Town, which seems, when one is in it, like a Noble Old House, which has stood a long time untenanted, and consequently out of Repair: The Streets are large, the Houses built after the

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Ancient Manner; but hardly any People to be seen in them.

FROM the Market-place, which is very spacious, there is a Noble Butchery, built by the Famous Cardinal *Wolsey*, whose Father was a Butcher of this Town: He also laid the Foundation of a College here, but never finish'd it. The Viscount of *Hereford* has an Ancient Seat and Park joining to the Town; from whose Bowling-Green in the Park, one has a full Prospect of the Town and River, its Harbour and Neighbouring Country. The Inns here are very good, and all Manner of Provisions are Plenty and Cheap: Which makes me wonder, that a Place, so well situated for Trade, should be so much neglected. Ships of above Two Hundred Tuns are built here; and yet at Low-Water, the Harbour is almost dry: Which occasion'd that pleasant Saying of the late Duke of *Buckingham* to King *Charles II.* speaking of this Town, *That it was a Town without Inhabitants, a River without Water, Streets without Names, and the Asses wore Boots.*

THE Meaning of this last Description, is, That the Town is divided into the Names of Parishes, and not Streets; and my Lord *Hereford's* Bowling-Green is rolled by Asses in Boots, that their Feet may make no Impression on the Green.

I HIRED a Boat to go down to *Harwich*, which is a Passage made in Two Hours: But before I leave *Suffolk*, I must observe to you, that this County gives the Title of Earl to one of

of the Eldest Branches of the Family of *Howard*, and, what will surprize you, who has neither Estate, Interest, nor Government, in the Province, as amongst us. For you know that in *France* and *Germany*, those who have Titles of Dukes, or Counts of a Province, are always supposed to be Persons of greatest Power and Interest in it: But in *England*, the Lords Lieutenants, or Governors of the Province, are always changed according to the Prince's Pleasure; yet generally chosen amongst the Nobility of the Province, who have most Interest to serve the Prince's Inclinations, according to the Emergencies of Affairs.

THE present Lord Lieutenant is the Duke of *Grafton*, Son to him who was a Natural Son of King *Charles II.* by the Dutchess of *Cleveland*; bred up to the Sea, and was a great Instrument in that Revolution of *England* by King *William*: He was one of the Admirals of the Fleet; but unhappily killed at the Siege of *Cork* in *Ireland*.

THE present Duke inherits all the Virtues of his Father: Is a great Assertor of the Constitution of his Country; and doth Honour in his Post to the Queen that employs him. He has been bred abroad: Is very Polite, Handsom in his Person, and of a Princely Behaviour.

THE Lord *Cornwallis*, who was Lord Lieutenant before him, lives also near *Bury*, at a pretty Hunting-Seat, called *Colford*; though he

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has a larger in the County, called *Broom*: No body keeps up the Grandeur and Hospitality of the Ancient Nobility, more than he. His Father, the late Lord, was very Instrumental at the late Revolution: And the Son continues a great Assertor of the Constitution of his Country.

THERE are several other Noblemen, who reside in this Province. My Lord *Hervey*, created by this Queen, has a great Estate in the County; lives generally in *Bury*; Is a Nobleman that knows how to mix Pleasure with Business, as much as any body; and is a Person of great Interest in his Country.

THE Earl of *Orford*, so much known abroad by the Title of Admiral *Russell*, who burnt the *French* Fleet at *La Hogue*, and made all the *Mediterranean* to tremble, resides also in the Neighbourhood of *Bury*, where he has made a charming Retreat.

THE Family of *Fermains*, which has been established at *Rushbrook* above 500 Years, as is to be seen by the fine Monuments in their Church, and was Nobilitated into two Branches by King *Charles* the II^d, through the favour of their Uncle, Created Earl of *St. Albans* for his Service to the Royal Family in their Exile, was very flourishing. But what to me seems very strange, that now 'tis extinguished, there is hardly a Gentleman left in *England* of that Name.

IN *Germany*, where Families have been settled for some Generations, the whole Province is branched

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Branched out in the Family. But here I saw the Tree of the Family of the *Springs* from *Henry the Fifth's* Reign Knights of *Pokenham*; their Male-Line hath never failed; and yet except the present *Sir William*, there is not any other Gentleman of that Name in the County, and very few I am told in *England*.

Milford-hall is a most Noble Seat, built by *Sir William Cordall*, Master of the Rolls to *Queen Mary*, Consort to *Philip of Spain*; it hath continued in the Family till the Day *Sir John Cordall* dy'd by a Fall from his Horse, and hath not left any of the Name to succeed him, though I am told that he had Seven Uncles of his Name.

THESE Three Instances in one County I thought worthy of your Remark. And before I proceed to *Harwich*, I must also observe to you that this County sends Fourteen Members to Parliament; viz. Two from the County, and Two from each of the Towns of *Bury*, *Ipswich*, *Sudbury*, *Orford*, *Aldborough* and *Eye*.

THE River from *Ipswich* to *Harwich* wideneth as we go along, and within a Mile of the Town spreadeth like a Lake, which makes the noble Harbour of

HARWICH, extending from *Land-guard-Fort* which commands its Entry from the Sea up to the *Manering-Tree* Water: And *Ipswich* River may contain all the Fleets in *Europe* Land-lock'd; its Entry lies so well secured by Nature, that although it is full Two Miles wide, yet the Sea

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Sea is so shallow on the *Essex* Side, that no Ships can pass but just under the Guns of the Fort.

THE Town is very small but clean, consisting of three Streets ; their Houses tolerable, and the Inns very good, but very dear by reason of the great Concourse of Strangers that the convenience of the Pacquet-Boats brings thither. Here are no Beggars in the Streets to molest you, as abroad. But one great Inconvenience which I found every where since I Landed, but more especially here, is, that a single Person meets with no Ordinary to eat at, but must bespeak a whole Dish, and pay for the whole, though you eat never so little of it : so that one that cannot feed on one Joynt, must therefore travel dear, if he travels single.

I FOUND in their Town-House, that one *Thomas de Brotherton*, Brother to one of their King *Henry's*, and the Original of the Family of the *Howards*, Dukes of *Norfolk*, was first Founder of the Priviledge of this Town which sends Two Deputies to Parliament. This Place King *William* Erected into a Marquisate in favour of the Duke of *Schomberg*, who accompanied that Prince in his Expedition to *England* ; and it is now the Title of the Eldest Son of that Family. The present Marquess, whom we have seen at *Gaunt*, and was always esteemed the Gallantest and Brightest Gentleman in the Army, is run of late into such a Course of drinking hot Liquors, as eats him up ; and as he is the only Son of the present Duke, it's to be fear'd that his Death will extinguish that great and new Family in
this

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this Nation ; though an Elder Branch thrives better at *Franckfort* in *Germany*.

THERE is a very pleasant Walk here about Half a Mile from the Town called *Beacon-Hill*, from whence one seeth a large Prospect of the Coasts of *Suffolk* and *Essex*, the Town and Port of *Harwich*, with the Men of War Riding at the *Gun-Fleet*.

AT the Foot of this Hill lies the famous Well which turns Wood into Metal. I took out several Pieces of Sticks which seemed to the Eye to be Wood, but was Ponderous, but yet Brittle. It is of this that they make their best *Coperas*.

FROM *Harwich* I took Post, and arrived in Four Hours at *COLCHESTER*, the Antient *Colonia* of the *Romans*. This Town may be three good Miles in Circumference ; it hath Ten Parish Churches, but none fine. It's built upon the Top of an Hill, with two long Streets running down to the Bottom on each Side ; which makes me wonder how it could hold out a Siege during the Civil Wars, its Situation making it incapable of being fortified. There are still Remains of its old Castle, in which one sees abundance of *Roman-Brick*, and from whence one has a full View of the Town, and part of the adjacent Country, which is not near so fine as *Suffolk*, though as Fertile, and more Inclosed.

THIS is the famous Town in *England* for *Bays* and *Says* ; those Stuffs which we see the Nuns and Fryars cloathed with abroad, and of which the *Spaniards* carry such vast Quantities to *America*,

THIS

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THIS Manufacture employs all the Neighbouring Villages, some in Carding, some in Spinning, and others in Weaving; and several credible Factors assure me, that they return from *London* every Week above 30000*l.* in ready Money for these Stuffs, besides what they transport themselves. During the War with *Spain* no Place suffered more than this; and many Thousand People that were employed in this Trade were brought upon the Charge of the Parishes for want of Business; but now the Commerce is opened again with *Spain*, this Place will be very thriving. They send two Deputies from thence to Parliament: And the Earl of *Rivers*, who is present Lord Lieutenant of this County of *Essex*, gives the Title of this Town to his Eldest Son. You may remember him Lord *Colchester* in the Army last War; he was the first *English* Lord that joyn'd King *William* at his Landing; and is now One of the Zealots for the Peace: He is reckoned what the *English* call a very cunning Man.

THERE runs a little River by the Bottom of this Town, which in three Miles Course makes their Harbour call'd *Vernoe*, where their Custom-House is kept, and their shipping comes. Here are the best Oysters in the World. The Inhabitants value themselves, that *Helen* the Mother of *Constantine* the Great was born here.

FROM

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FROM *Colchester*, in an Hour or two, I came to an old Village called *Killdane*, where they tell you the famous Massacre of the *Danes* began. And from thence in an Hour more to a Market Town called *Witham*, handsomely situated, with fine Inns in it, and abundance of Gentlemen Villages round it; amongst whom *Newball*, which was built by King *Henry the Eighth*, and called for its charming Situation, *Beau-lieu*, is still worth seeing. The Avenue of Trees from the great Road is Majestick, being near an *English* Mile long, very broad, and the Trees large and regular: the House by reason of the many Alterations made to it by its several Masters, is very spacious but irregular, with a very large and a noble Park. Queen *Elizabeth* gave this House to her Favourite then the Earl of *Essex*, after whose Misfortunes it hath often changed Masters. But upon the Restoration of the Royal Family by King *Charles the Second*, General *Monk*, Created Duke of *Albemarle*, purchased it, and has left it in Disorder and Disputes amongst his Relations.

IN Two Miles more I came to *Chelmsford*, called the County-Town, not only because it lies in the Center of the County, but because the Courts of Justice are kept there; and it's here where the Freeholders meet to chuse their Members of Parliament.

CHELMSFORD is a charming Situation, lying in a beautiful Plain, with a little River running through it. The Inns are very good. And so many Gentlemen's Seats round it,

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it, that a Stranger may pleasantly pass away a Week here. The Lord *Petre* has a fine Seat, built *a la Moderne*, about an Hour's distance from hence. This Family is *Roman Catholick*, but very rich : The Famous Father *Petre's*, who was Privy Counsellor to the late K. *James*, was a Son of this Family. The Earl of *Manchester*, one of the chief Branches of the Family of *Montague*, whom we have seen Abroad, Ambassador both in *France* and *Italy*, has a charming Residence here : As also *Mildmay*, Lord *Fitzwater*. I went from hence on purpose to *Castle-Henningham*, to enquire after the Family of the Famous *Joannes Acutus*, whose Statue we saw in the great Church of *Florence*, and who is said by the Inscription to be born here ; I took his Name to be *John Sharp*, but some of the Neighbouring Gentry assure me that his Name was Sir *John Hackwood* ; and that it is not long since his Family subsisted. I wished to have met with some of them, to inform them in what passionate Esteem the Memory of their Family is among the *Florentines* to this Day. From

CHELMSFORD, we go through a little Market Town called *Ingerstone*, a fine Village called *Brentwood*, another Market Town called *Rumford*, and so to *London*. You see in your Way at *Rumford*, an old House formerly belonging to Queen *Elizabeth*, called *Giddy-Hall*, being a great square Building, resembling a *Jesuit's College* : And between this and *London* the

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the Noble Seat of *Sir Richard Child*, with the finest Gardens in the World.

ESSEX has been a very unfortunate Title to those Families who have carried it, since the Reign of King *Henry the Eighth*.

THOMAS CROMWELL created Earl of *Essex* by that King, was beheaded in the Tower of London.

DEVEREUX, Earl of *Essex*, Queen *Elizabeth's* great Favourite, was also beheaded in the Tower by her Order.

THE Earl of *Essex* in King *James the First's* Reign, was divorced from his Lady, and she given in Marriage to *Car*, Earl of *Somerset*, the King's Favourite; which made *Essex* a great Instrument of the Civil Wars that ensued.

AND Capell created Earl of *Essex* in the Reign of King *Charles the Second*, had his Throat cut in the Tower. The Title continues still in that Family: The Son of him who had his Throat cut was the last Earl; and he hath left a fine Youth to succeed him, now going to Travel. This County, though larger than *Suffolk*, sends but Eight Members to Parliament, viz. Two for the County, Two from *Harwich*, Two from *Colchester*, and Two from *Malden*.

LET-



LETTER II.

WINDSOR, Decemb. 28th, 1712.

SIR,



Y last being from *London*, perhaps you may expect, that this should be a Description of that Famous City; but to keep exactly to our Plan, I am resolv'd to pass through the several *Southern* Countries first; and reserve this great Morfel *pour faire la bonne bouche*, this being the worst Season of the Year for Travelling and *Carnaval* Time: Which, contrary to the Customs of other Countries, where the People, at this Season, flock to great Towns to participate of the Diversions of their several *Carnavals*; here in *England*, during the Twelve Days of *Christmass*, the Nobility and Gentry retire to their respective Seats in the Country; and there with their Relations, Neighbours, and Tenants, keep *Carnavals* in their own Houses, Hospitality, Musick, Balls, and play as much during this Season all over *England*, as in any Kingdom whatsoever. And I chose to retire hither, during the Deadness of the Town, to have the Pleasure of giving you the Description of this Celebrated

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Palace with the adjacent Country, and shall take *Hampton-Court*, and what else is remarkable in my return to *London*.

WINDSOR, is the celebrated Habitation of the Kings of *England* since the Reign of *Edward* the Third, though indeed it has belonged to the Crown since the *Norman* Conquest; for *William* the Conqueror being charmed with this Scituation gave several Lands in exchange for it to the Clergy, to whom it belonged under the *Saxons*, and built a Hunting House there. *Henry* the First turned this House into a Castle and Fortified it; and to make the Place more Illustrious, summoned the whole Nobility of *England* to pass their *Whitsuntide* there. But it was our Great *Edward* the Third that first Erected it into a Palace, on his founding here the famous Order of the *Garter*. It has received several Additions since, especially from King *Charles* the Second, who new Modell'd all the Apartments; and from King *William* the Third, who enlarged the Park, augmented the Avenues of Trees, and inclosed the whole with a Brick-wall.

THE Scituation of this charming Castle seems design'd by Nature for Royal Majesty, being on the Top of a rising Ground, which with an August State overlooks all the adjacent Country.

THE Town which sends Members to Parliament, but otherwise very inconsiderable, lies on the *West* Side; and its Park, whose Walls are washed by the River *Thames* to the *North* and *East*; and a Forest of a vast Extent to the *South*.

C

THE

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THE Castle of *Windsor* consists of Two large Square Courts, with a Tower betwixt them, where resides the Constable or Governor ; and the whole is a good Mile in Circumference.

IN the Upper Court toward the *East* is the Royal Palace ; and in the middle of the Square a very fine Statue of King *Charles* the Second on Horseback ; and round the Square without is the noblest *Terrass-Walk* in the World, made of Gravel, (the great Ornament of Walks in this Country, and a Beauty little known abroad) and faced with Free-Stone like the Ramparts of a Fortified City. From this *Terrass* one has an agreeable View of the neighbouring Country. I must own I never saw any thing of its Kind abroad that comes up to it.

ON the Park-side of the Square, to the *North* lie the Royal Apartments, with those of the Officers of the Household. The rest of the Square composes the Apartments of the Officers of the Crown, a Chancellor, Treasurer, Secretary of State, &c. You enter to the Royal Apartment through a *Vestibule* supported by Pillars, with some Antick Bustos in the Niches ; from whence you ascend the great Stairs to those Apartments on one side ; and on the Right of the *Vestibule* is a little Court, where there is another great pair of Stairs to *St. George's-Hall* on the other side ; from each of those Stairs you enter into a Guard-Hall, where the *Switzers*, or the Yeomen of the Guards, as they are called here, do

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do Duty. These two Halls are finely Embellished with several Warlike Instruments most delicately disposed. And the Picture of Prince *George* of *Denmark* on Horseback is admirably Painted above the Chimney of the one, and that of the late King of *Sweden* on Horseback on that of the other.

I AM sure you do not expect from me a particular Description of each Apartment that composes this Glorious Palace ; it's enough I tell you, that they are Spacious and Noble ; that the Canopies of State, under which the Queen gives her Audience, are as rich as Embroidery can make them. The Pictures in the Queen's Closet, and the little Gallery with that of *English* Beauties, are worth a Stranger's coming to *England* on purpose to see; especially *St. George's-Hall*, with the little Chappel that joins to it, wherein *Vario* that famous *Italian* Painter has even outdone himself.

THIS Hall is very large and long, and designed from the first Institution for the Entertainment of the Knights of the Garter at their Installation ; And the Sovereign used every *St. George's Day* to give a Feast to his 25 Knights Companions that Day. But this latter Custom has not been observ'd since the Reign of King *Charles* the Second, who made the last Feast of this Kind at the Installation of the Earl of *Mulgrave*, the present Duke of *Buckingham*. And this was attributed to the great good Nature of that Prince, who, on several Companions of the Garter their

refusing to assist at this Installation, resolved to do it in Person.

ON one side of the Hall is Painted *Edward* the Third, Founder of this Order, sitting on a Throne, receiving his triumphant Son *Edward* the *Black Prince*, with the Kings of *France* and *Scotland* Prisoners, full as big as the Life. On the Cieling is Painted the Triumphs of King *Charles* the Second, over Faction, Rebellion and Sedition; where the Painter to please the Humour of the then Court, has put the Picture of the Earl of *Shaftsbury*, a Chancellor in that Reign, representing Sedition, with Libels in his Hands; and at the Upper End of the Hall is the Picture of King *William* seated on his Throne in the Habit of the Order, with this Motto, *Veniendo restituit rem.*

FROM the Hall, under an Artificial Curtain, supported by four Statues bigger than the Life, you enter the Chappel, which is Pav'd with Marble like the Hall, and Painted with the History of the New Testament. The Altar-Piece is the last Supper, and on the Cieling a noble Ascension. This is the Chappel of the Royal Family, but that of the Order of the *Garter* is in the Lower Court, of which I shall give you a Description by and by.

IN descending from the Upper Court to the Lower, you pass by the Tower I mentioned above, which is the Habitation of the Constable. It is built after the manner of an Amphitheatre, very High and very Magnificent; and the Apartments
are

are suitable to the Character of the Office, which is justly reckoned very Noble. Prince *Rupert*, late Brother to the Princess *Sophia* of *Hannover*, was the First Constable after the Restoration of the Royal Family; he was succeeded by the Duke of *Norfolk*; and the present Constable is the Duke of *Northumberland*, Third Son to King *Charles* the Second, by the Dutchess of *Cleveland*. He was Captain of the Horse-Guards in King *James's* Reign, but not taking Part at the Revolution, as his Brother the Duke of *Grafton* did, his Troop was taken from him by King *William*; and upon the Queen's coming to the Throne, he was made a Lieutenant-General, and has now his Troop of Guards again. He is a Man of a Noble Presence, and, they say, very much like his Father: His Employment of Constable gives him both the Military and Civil Power within the Jurisdiction of the Castle and Forest, which is very large.

THE lower Court, or Square, is much longer, and full as Broad as the upper: On the North side, is the Chappel of the Order of the *Garter*, raised by *Edward* the Third for that End; and is certainly one of the Noblest *Gothick* Buildings we can see any where: The Roof of the Body of the Church is adorned with the Arms of the First Sovereign, and the First Five and Twenty Companions of that most Noble Order, still very fresh; and in the Choir are the Twenty Six Stalls for the Twenty Six Knights, each with the Banner of their Arms above their Stalls.

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THE Arms and Titles of every Knight, are also Engraven on little Copper Plates, and nailed to the Stalls, from whence they are never removed ; but the Banners are taken down, when any of the Knights dies, to give way to those of their Successors.

THE Installation of a Knight Companion of this Order, is perform'd with the greatest Solemnity and Magnificence imaginable ; and has been so much esteemed by all Foreign Princes, ever since the First Institution by *Edward* the Third, that you won't think I Flatter the *Englishmen*, when I tell you, that in all Ages since its Original, it hath out-shone all the other Orders in the World. I examined exactly the several Copper Escutcheons, and compared them with the Register of the Charter, and find that Eight Emperors of *Germany*, with several Princes of the Empire ; of which, Seven Counts *Palatines* of the *Rhine* and *Bavaria* ; Five Princes of the House of *Brunswick Lunenburg* ; with the present Elector and Electoral Prince of *Hannover*, Descendants of that Antient and Noble Family ; Two of the House of *Brandenberg*, the Father and this present King of *Prussia* ; Two Dukes of *Lorrain* ; Two Electors of *Saxony* ; Two Dukes of *Holstein* ; Three of *Wirtemberg* ; Five Kings of *Denmark* ; and Three Kings of *Sweden*, have been Knights Companions of this most Noble Order.

ALSO Three Kings of *Spain*, with Two Grandees of that Nation ; Five Kings of *Portugal*,

gal, with Three of their Sons at different Times; Two Kings of *Naples*; One King of *Arragon*; Two Dukes of *Urbino*; One Duke of *Savoy*; and the present King of *Poland*.

I SEARCHED narrowly for the Escutcheon of the Count *d' Oubizzy*, whose stately Palace we saw near *Padua* in *Italy*; and where the History of his Installation into this Order is so curiously Painted by *Paul Veronese*, with the Arms and Titles of several Knights Companions, Contemporary with him: But all the Discovery I could make was, that the Duke *De Briga* an *Italian*, was Installed along with the Emperor *Sigismund*, in the Reign of *Henry* the Fifth; which, I suppose, may be him, he having been General to that Prince.

THERE have been Five Princes of *Orange* Knights Companions of this Order; and Five Kings of *France*; viz. *Francis* the First, *Charles* the Ninth, and *Henry* the Second, Third and Fourth; Two Dukes of *Montmorancy*, and the Dukes *D' Epernon* and *Chevreuse*; and what will somewhat surprize you, *Gallard de Duras* was made Knight of this Order, by *Edward* the Fourth, at a Time when he was carrying on his Conquests in *France*; and this *Gallard's* Escutcheon bears the same Arms with *M. de Duras*, who was Created Earl of *Feversham*, and Install'd Knight of this Order in the Reign of the late King *James*.

I DO not find that any King of *Scotland* was Knight Companion of this Order, till *James* the Fifth, who was Created by his Uncle *Henry*

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the Eighth : But *James* Earl of *Douglafs*, a Subject of that Nation, was Installed into this Order by *Edward* the Fourth, when he was carrying on his Conquest in *Scotland*; but *James* the Sixth of *Scotland*, and First of *England*, made amends to that Nation; for on his Accession to the *English* Throne, he made Seven of the *Scotch* Nobility, Knights Companions of this Order at once, viz. *Steward*, Duke of *Lenox*; *Erskin*, Earl of *Marr*; *Houme*, Earl of *Dumbar*; *Erskin*, Earl of *Kelley*; *Hay*, Earl of *Carlisle*; *Kerr*, Earl of *Somerset*; and *Hamilton*, Marquis of *Hamilton*; and at his Death, added an Eighth, *Douglafs*, Earl of *Morton*: However, King *Charles* the Second, after his Restoration, retrenched this Excess to the *Scotch* Nation; for since his Reign, there has never been above One at a Time of that Nation, Knight Companion of this Order; but the present Queen has sufficiently made up that, by reviving the most Illustrious and Antient Order of the *Thistle*, in that her Antient Kingdom, and hath restored it to its Primitive Splendor.

THIS Order is composed of a Sovereign, and Twelve Knights, in Imitation of our Saviour, and his Twelve Apostles; they carry a Medal of *St. Andrew*, the Patron of that Kingdom, in a Green Ribbon, as those of the *Garter* do that of *St. George*, the Patron of *England*, in a Blue; and they carry a *Thistle* with *St. Andrew's* Cross, embroidered in a Star on their Coats, with this Motto, *Nemo me impunè Laces-*
sit,

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fit, as those of the *Garter* carry *St George's Cross* in a *Star* on their *Coats*, with this *Motto* round the *Garter*, *Honi soit qui mal y pense*.

THE present Knights Companions of the *Thistle* are, the Dukes of *Gordon* and *Atbol*; the Marquiss of *Anandale* and *Louthian*; the Earls of *Marr*, *Finlater*, *Loudoun*, *Orkney*, *Stairs*, *Orery* and *Portmore*; and the Earl of *Perth*, who followed King *James* to *France*; and they have their Chappel of Installment at the Abbey of *Holy-rood-House* in *Scotland*, as those of the *Garter* have theirs here.

NOTHING more proves the Antiquity of many Noble Families in this Kingdom, than these Escutcheons in this Chappel: I found Seven Knights of the *Garter* of the Name of *Ratlife*, Earls of *Suffex* formerly, but now reduc'd to the Family of the Earls of *Darenwater* in the *North*, and at present *Roman-Catholicks*: Five of the *Talbots*, Earls of *Shrewsbury*, of whom the present Duke, the Ornament of this Court, is of the Number; several Branches of the Families of *Howard*, the *De Grays*, *Manners*, *Hastings*, *Nevils*, *Spencers*, *Montagues*, *Browns*, *Savils*, *Sheffields*, *Staffords*, *Mobuns*, *Herberts*, and *Bridges*, all Noble Families still Existing in *England*, are found amongst its most Antient Knights; and even some Families that never were Noble, as the *Hollands*, *Wallops*, *Wingfields*, *Falstaffs*, and *Stapletons*.

I ENLARGE the more on this Subject, because abroad it is generally believed, that the
Antient

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Antient Nobility of this Nation is lost in Trade; and that he who has most Money, is the Finest Gentleman. It is true, that every Chancellor here, being Created a Peer, many Families are enobled from the Law; and sometimes this Honour is purchased with Money; yet by the exact Examination I have made from the Records of this Order, it is plain, that very few Nations can show a more uninterrupted Course of Antient Nobility, than Forty or Fifty Families, besides an Infinite number of Gentry, who can prove their Pedigrees, some even before the *Norman Conquest*. And this is the more to be admired, in a Country where the Conveniency of Trade hath brought so many Strangers to Establish themselves amongst them.

AT the same Time that King *Edward* the Third Instituted this Order of the *Garter*, he made also a Provision for Twenty Six Gentlemen that should be wounded in the Wars, or become Indigent or Aged; and those he calls the Poor Knights of *Windsor*; I saw the *Charter* which was confirmed by the proper Delegates in that Prince's Reign; and their Provision hath been since Ratified by Act of Parliament, in the Reign of King *Henry* the Eighth, and Queen *Elizabeth*. They are now reduced to the Number of Eighteen, and have the Allowance of 40 *l. per Annum* each; and each their little Cell round the Square, in which the Church stands; they wear a Cassock of Red Cloath, with a large Mantle of Purple, on which they have the *St. George's Cross* on their left Shoulder, and have their

their Stalls in the middle of the Choir, immediately below those of the Knights of the *Garter*; and they are obliged by their Order to go in their Robes twice a Day to Church, to pray for the *Sovereign*, and the Knights of the *Garter*.

THERE is a fine Monument of Steel erected over *Edward* the Fourth in the Church. The Dukes of *Beaufort*, who are of the Natural Line of the Antient House of *Lancaster*, have their Burial-Place in a little Chappel in the Church, where is a very fine Monument of the late Duke: And behind the Church, are the Apartments of the Prebends, Canons, and other Officers; and at the Bottom of the Square is kept the Library. This Square is surrounded by a high Wall, with several Towers on it, as the upper Square is by the Terras; and you enter each over a Stone Bridge with a Gate, the upper Fronting the Royal Apartments, and the other the Church.

OVER AGAINST the Bridge which leads to the upper Court, is a neat little Palace, that joins to the Park, which this Queen purchased when She was Princess of *Denmark*, and lived in it, when in Disgrace with King *William*: The Green-House and Garden are very Fine, and Her Majesty Retires often hither from the Castle, when She would be free from Company: The Duke of *St. Albans*, Natural Son to King *Charles* the Second, by Mrs. *Guyn*, hath also a Palace here, which was built by his Mother, and where his Family resides; you have seen him abroad Gentleman of the Bed-Chamber to
King

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King *William*, and his Envoy to *Paris* after the Peace of *Ryswick*, so I will not pretend to give you his Character. The Court hath lately remov'd him from his Command of the Gentlemen Pensioners, so that he seldom appears there.

BETWEEN the Castle and the Queen's Little House, is the Entry to what they call the Little Park, not because it is small, for it is at least Three Miles in Circumference, but because there is a Larger adjoining to it: The Walks of this Park are finely shaded, it is well stocked with Deer, and the Lodge of the Keeper is a very Charming Habitation; Admiral *Churchill*, Brother to the Duke of *Marlborough*, who had this Employment some Years ago, made the Gardens very fine, and other Additions at a great Expence.

THE present Possessor is the Earl of *Godolphin*, Son to that Great Man, who was Lord High Treasurer of *England*, and whose Memory is still so fresh in all the Courts of *Europe*, for having so steadily supported their Cause through all the last War. Every Thing is well disposed through this little House, even to the House of Office, which is adorned with the History of *Cortez*, the Famous *Spanish* General's Expedition to *Mexico*, painted on Mother of Pearl, being Part of the Spoils taken at Ports *St. Mary's* and *Vigo*, and presented to the afore-said Admiral.

FROM this little Park one enters into the Great one, which contains full Fourteen Miles in Circumference. It is stock'd with all manner
of

of Game for Her Majesty's Diversion ; and Nature has so Embellished it, that it surpasses all the Gardens of Art. The Dutchess of *Marlborough* is still Ranger or Keeper of this Park. Her Lodge which was built in King *Charles* the Second's Reign, and kept for the Pleasure of that Prince by Mr. *May* then Ranger, and put into the Hands of the Earl of *Portland* by King *William*, has received such Additions from that Earl, and the present Dutchess, as makes it a compleat *Villa*.

A MILE from hence in the Forest is another Lodge called *Cranburne*, built by the late Earl of *Ranelagh*, Pay-Master-General of King *William's* Army, who had a good Taste in Architecture, Painting, and Gardening, which alone is worth a Stranger's pains to see this Country. It is situated on the Top of a Hill in the Middle of the Forest, from whence on one side we see *Windsor* and all its Parks ; and to the *Eastward*, *London* and its adjacent Country ; and to the *West* a Noble View with rising Grounds covered with Trees. One can hardly imagine a finer Landskip than that we see in what is called my Lady's Closet, which having Windows of all Sides, gives you a nobler Picture than all the *Raphaels*, *Tititians*, and *Rubens*. The Gardens are also very large and very Elegant, and the Green which slopes down to the Fish Ponds in imitation of Nature, must have cost him a great deal of Money.

FROM *Windsor* in crossing the *Thames* you come to *EATON*, a famous College for the
I Education

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Education of Youth, Founded by King Henry the Sixth ; there are seldom less than 300 Scholars, being esteemed the First School in *England*, and the Cloysters are large as in the Monasteries abroad. The Chappel is a Noble *Gothick* Building, and worthy of the first Founder, of whom I shall say more when I come to *Oxford* and *Cambridge*.

Two Miles further lies an Antient Seat call'd *Stoke*, formerly belonging to the *Hastings* Earls of *Huntington*, and now to a Gentleman of the Name of *Geer*. As I entered the first Court I fancied my self in some antient *Villa* near *Rome*. There is a Chappel and a little Hospital on the Left, with a Portico supported by Pillars, and a Grott on the Right, and in the Middle several Statues bigger than the Life.

You enter the House just as you do the *Villa Borgese* at *Rome*, by a great Hall Paved with Marble and adorned with many Fine, Antient Bustos of the *Roman* Emperors, some of Marble, some of Porphyry, and others of *Granat* brought from *Rome* by the late Sir *Robert Geer*, and cost him a vast Sum of Money, besides the Risk of getting them out of *Rome*, contrary to the Pope's Order. At the Bottom of this Hall lies a pretty little Chappel, Paved with Marble after the new *Italian* manner, seeming to rise like Steps of Stairs after the manner of *Santa Justina* at *Padua*, and the little *St. Andrew* at *Rome*. From this Hall you enter a curious Park with Noble Avenues cut in the form of a Star, each of the Seven Allies having
a fine

a fine Prospect, and from one of them a good View of *Windsor-Castle*. There are also five delicate Fish-Ponds in this Park, which by Sluices open to one another. A little Cabinet in the Middle of the Star would be a most delicious Summer-House. The House at present wants a little Repair.

Two Miles further from *Stoke* lies *Clifden*, Built by *Villars* Duke of *Buckingham*, and now belongs to the Earl of *Orkney*. This Palace is situated on the Top of a Hill, wash'd with the *Thames* Five Miles West from *Windsor*, and overlooks all the Country round it; it is a Noble Building *a la Moderne*. The great *Terrass* which fronts the Garden, with the *Parterre* are well disposed. Under the *Terrass* are 26 Niches, in which the Duke of *Buckingham* designed to place Statues bigger than the Life; and in the Middle a pretty Alcove with Stone Stairs, which ascends to the Apartments. The Earl of *Orkney* is a Son of the House of *Hamilton* in *Scotland*, Grandson to that Duke who was beheaded for King *Charles* the First, and Brother to the Duke lately killed in a Duel. This Lord hath been bred to War from his Infancy, is an Old Lieutenant-General, and reckoned to be One of the best Foot Officers the Queen has.

FROM *Clifden* one must not forget to pass by *Gerard's-Cross*, the charming Seat of the Earl of *Portland*. The House, the Gardens, the Wood, (in which amongst the vast Variety of Birds are some Parrots) are disposed with as great Magnifi-

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Magnificence as can be imagined. It was Built by the late Lord *Jefferys*, Lord High Chancellor of *England* in the Reign of King *James* the II^d, and purchased and much improved by the late Earl of *Portland*, who had a very good Taste in Architecture and Furniture; Nothing can be finer than the *Terrasses* by which they descend from the Apartments to the Gardens. The Earl of *Portland* is a brave Gentleman, and was Captain to the First Troop of Horse-Guards, but turn'd out, as the Duke of *St. Albans*. His Father the first Earl was a *Dutchman*, Created by King *William*.

On returning to *Windsor* I took *Ditton Park* in my way, one of the Seats of the Duke of *Montague*. The late Duke who had the best Taste in Architecture and Painting, has spared no Expence to make this a charming Habitation, as is his Palace at *London*: It lies about a Mile and an Half on the other side of the *Thames* from *Windsor*, in a Flat Country, and the House and Gardens are Moated round as in *Holland*; and the Circumference of the Moat may be above a Mile. The present Duke of *Montague* is very Young, and Married to one of the Duke of *Marlborough's* Daughters.

WINDSOR with its Forest lies in *Barkshire*, a small Fertile County, which sends Nine Members to Parliament, viz. Two for the County; One for *Abingdon*, the County Town; Two for *Reading*; Two for *Wallingford*; and Two for *Windsor*. This County gives Title of Earl to *Howard*, one of the Branches of the House of *Norfolk*.

III. L E T.



LETTER III.

RICHMOND, March 25th, 1713.

S I R,

Y^r lst from *Windsor* will give you a just Idea of the Grandeur of the *English* Nation ; and this will confirm to you the Pleasures, as well as the Usefulness of my Voyage.

I WENT from *Windsor* to *Hampton-Court*, another Royal Palace, and took in my way *Egham*, where are the Seats of the poor Unfortunate General *Mackartney*, (who was Second to my Lord *Mobun* against Duke *Hamilton*) and of General *Hill*, the present Governour of *Dunkirk*. This Gentleman is Brother to my Lady *Masham*, the Queen's great Favourite ; but if he were not, by his good Qualities he very well deserves the Honours conferr'd upon him.

HAMPTON-COURT, which was built by Cardinal *Woolsey*, in the Reign of *Henry* the Eighth, with its Parks and Gardens, may contain about Three Miles in circumference ; and the River *Thames* encompasses the Whole in a Semi-circle ; its Situation is low, so that the

D

View

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View from the Apartments is more confin'd than at *Windsor*.

Windsor is more Majestick, and more adorned with the Beauties of Nature; and this is prettier, and more adorned with that of Art. This Palace consists of Two large Courts, besides the Bass-Court for Officers and Servants.

ITS outward Court remains in the Condition wherein it was first built; on the left is a Noble Chappel, lately beautified by the present Queen; and on the right is as Noble a Portico, supported by *Dorick* Pillars, which conducts you to the Great Stairs, finely painted by the Famous *Vario*.

THE inward Court was built from the Ground by the late King *William*, and makes a *Piazza*; tho' by the lowness of the Pillars it looks more like a Cloyster, than a Royal Palace: However, this was done for the Conveniency of the King, whose Constitution did not allow him to mount Stairs; but the Apartments make much amends for this; for there are none more Magnificent nor more exactly disposed in any Palace in the World: And that King, who had a good Taste in Furniture, hath adorned it with all the Niceness imaginable.

IN the Great Gallery hang the Famous *Cartoons* of *Raphael Urbin*, so much celebrated all over *Europe*. And in another Gallery a Triumphant Entry of a *Roman* Emperor, very Curious, with a good Collection of *Porcelaines*, and other Curiosities of the late Queen *Mary*. There is also a fine Collection of Flowers, Birds,

and

and other Paintings in the King's Closet. Most of the Chimney-Pieces are adorned with the Originals of *Vandyke* : And there is a Curious Picture of King *William* on Horseback, by Sir *Godfrey Kneller*.

ON the *South* side of this Palace they have sunk a Garden Ten Foot, to give a View from the Apartments to the River : It is enclosed by a Balustrade of Iron finely Wrought, with the Arms and Devices of the Three Kingdoms, and the Ciphers of the late King and Queen.

THE Front to the *East*, all of Free-Stone, is very Noble, looking into the Park over a Noble *Parterre*, a good half Mile long, embellished with Vases, Statues, Gravel and Green Walks, and separated from the Park by a Balustrade of Iron.

THIS Park extends itself near Two Miles in length towards the Town of *Kingston* ; and has a fine Canal in the middle of about half a Mile long, planted with Rows of Trees on each side. In the middle of the Park is a good House for the Master of the Queen's Studs, which are kept here ; and the Walks are every where delicately shaded, as at *Windsor*.

ON the *North* side there is also a little Garden walled in, with a most Curious Labyrinth ; and from the Palace along the River side, is a Noble *Terrass Walk*, which leads to the Bowling-Green, where in each Corner is a large Pavilion ; and cross the Great Road is another Park, both enclosed with Brick Walls, and well stock'd with Deer.

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SIR *Johathan Andrews*, and Sir *Thomas Grantham*, both *East-India* Sea Captains, have each a handsom Seat in this Neighbourhood; but especially *Bushy-Park*, that Charming Seat of the present Lord *Hallifax*, the *Mecenas* of *England*, the Great Patron of Learning and Learned Men. As he has a good Taste in every Thing, you may believe there is nothing wanting to the Embellishment of this Place; and his Cascade is reckoned a Master-piece of its kind, and the Whole worth the Curiosity of a Traveller.

IN Two Hours from *Hampton-Court* you come to *Twittenham*, a Village remarkable for abundance of Curious Seats, of which that of *Boucher*, the Famous Gamester, would pass in *Italy* for a Delicate Palace. The Earl of *Marr*, the Earl of *Stafford*, the Earl of *Bradford*, the Lord *Brook*, the Lord *Dunbarr*, and the Lady *Falkland*, have each their pretty Villa's in this Parish; but, I think, that of Secretary *Johnston*, for the Elegancy and Largeness of his Gardens, his *Terrass* on the River, and the Situation of his House, makes much the brightest Figure here.

FROM hence I cross'd the River at *Ham*, an Antient Noble Seat, formerly belonging to the Duke of *Lauderdale*, but now to the Dutchess's Son, the Earl of *Dysert*, a *Scotch* Title, but he of an Antient Family, which I have already mention'd in the County of *Suffolk*, and Eldest Brother to that Brave General *Talmash*, whom

we knew abroad, and who was kill'd at the Expedition of *Brest*.

THE Gardens are still well kept, but the House more neglected than one could expect from so Great an Estate. You cannot imagine a more Beautiful Plantation of Trees. The Court-Yard, in the Niches of which are several *Roman* Emperours and Empresses Heads, fronts the *Thames*; the other Front with a large *Terrass*, is towards the Garden, and through one of its Avenues you come to *Richmond*, the *Frescaty* of *England*; you find a Fine House at the Bottom of the Hill, built by the late Earl of *Rocheſter*, Uncle to the present Queen, whose Gardens ascending the Hill in an artful confus'd Manner, are very Curious and Wonderful.

RICHMOND, by reason of its lofty Situation, is become from a Royal Seat a great Town. It was formerly called *Sheen*; but King *Henry* the Seventh delighting mightily in this Place, changed its Name to *Richmond*, being the Title he bore before he came to be King. *Edward* the Third, was the first who built a Royal Palace here, and dy'd in it of Grief, for the Loss of his Son, the Famous *Black Prince*. *Henry* the Fifth enlarged it; and *Henry* the Seventh compleated it. Queen *Elizabeth*, who also delighted in this Place, dy'd in it. But since the *Scots* Race came to the Throne, it hath been entirely neglected, and at last parcelled out into private Tenements by King *William*.

FRONTING this Old Palace, is a Noble Green, still very well kept, with Gentlemen's Houses on each side of it; and the Town runs up the Hill a full Mile to the Park, with Gardens on the declension to the River *Thames*, which washes the Bottom of the Hill.

THE Park is very large, and encompassed with a Brick Wall. In the middle of this Park, is a little artificial Hill, called King *Henry's* Mount; from whence one hath a full Prospect of Six Counties, with the City of *London* at Nine Miles distance, and *Windsor-Castle* at Fourteen. The Duke of *Ormond*, who is Captain-General of the Forces of this Kingdom, is also Ranger, or Keeper of this Park; and his Lodge is a perfect *Trianon*. Every Thing in it, and about it, is answerable to the Grandeur and Magnificence of its Great Master; and near it are Two Charming Villa's belonging to Sir *John Buckworth*, and Mr. *Geoffreys*, Rich Merchants in *London*.

IN my next you shall have what's worth your Entertainment in my Return to *London*; and, I hope, the Whole will divert you as much in reading, as it has done me in seeing.

I HAD almost forgot to tell you, that here are Mineral Purging Waters; which in Summer brings a great deal of good Company to the Wells, where there is Dancing, and other Publick Diversions every *Mondays* and *Thursdays*, during the Season; and this is the ordinary Summer's Residence of the Richest *Jews*, some of whom have pleasant Seats here.

IV. LET-



LETTER IV.

LONDON, April 10th, 1713.

S I R,



MIGHT have spar'd my last Letter from *Richmond*, and made this from *London* the longer; but was afraid you would have thought me lazy, if I had said nothing from *Christmas*, when I writ to you from *Windsor*, to *Easter* that I returned to Town; and indeed the Month that I employed in the Neighbourhood of *Richmond*, afforded me as much Variety and Delight as I could wish. Here are Men of all Professions, and all Religions, *Jews* and *Gentiles*, Papists and Dissenters; so that be ones Inclination what it will, you find in every Village thereabouts some of your own Stamp to converse with. If you love Books, every Gentleman hath a Library at your Service; if you will make Love, a Stranger is every where welcome: At Play, indeed, they will be too Cunning for you; even the Ladies think it no Crime to pawn handsomely; and for Drinking, you may be match'd from Night to Morning; Field Exercises also, as much

as any where. In short, for a Man of no Business, whose Time hangs heavy on his Hands, recommend me to *Richmond*; from whence, the fine Weather for Travelling coming on, I went in half an Hour to *Kew-Grreen*, a Charming little Village on the River *Thames*, where are abundance of pleasant Seats; amongst which that of the Earl of *Grantham*, Eldest Son to Monsieur *D'Overkirk*, whom we knew General of the *Dutch* Troops abroad, is very Fine; and, indeed, the Village wants only a Church to make it as agreeable as you can imagine.

HERE I crossed the *Thames* to *BRENTFORD*, a large Market-Town; behind which, are several little Seats for the Conveniency of Citizens in Summer; and by the River side, as you go out of Town, lies *Sion-House*, one of the Seats of the Duke of *Somerset*, which is very Noble. It's a large square Stone Building, finely Finished and Furnished: The present Queen used to reside in it, when once She was out of Favour with the late King *William*; The Gardens are tolerably well kept, and at the End of one of its Avenues, lies a pretty Village by the River side, call'd *Isleworth*.

FROM *Brentford*, I passed by the pleasant Village of *Chefwick*, where the Earl of *Burlington*, Sir *Stephen Fox*, and several other Gentlemen of Distinction have very agreeable Seats; and in an Hour got to *Sutton-Court*, that celebrated Seat of the late Earl of *Falconbridge*; and I must own
that

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that the House, Furniture, Pictures and Gardening, are well worth the Curiosity of a Stranger. It now belongs to Sir *Thomas Frankland*, Postmaster-General, to whom the Earl his Uncle left it. I saw here a Great and Curious Piece of Antiquity, the Eldest Daughter of *Oliver Cromwell* still Fresh and Gay, though of a great Age.

HAMMERSMITH is another Village on the Road, full of little Seats, from whence in an Hour I arrived at the Royal Palace of *Kensington*.

KENSINGTON was purchased by King *William* from the Earl of *Nottingham*, being in a Free Air, and at a small distance from *London*, the Smoak of whose Coal-Fires much incommoded his Majesty, who was always troubled with an *Asthma*, and could not bear lying in Town. Its Situation was also the more commodious for the Court, in that it joyns the High-park which reaches to that of *St. James's* near *London*, through both of which the King caused to be made a Royal Way, broad enough for Two Coaches a-Breast, with Lanthorns on each side at convenient Distances for passing at all Hours of the Night. This Palace is irregular without, having had several Additions from that Prince; yet its Apartments are very fine and well disposed within: King *William's* Gallery and Closet adjoining, contain a curious Collection of Original Paintings,
I think

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I think much the best of any of the Royal Palaces.

THE present Queen resides often here; and in the Apartment of the late Prince of Denmark, her Majesty's Consort, are also some very good Pictures; and a Gallery with the Pictures of all such as were Admirals of the Fleet while he was Lord High Admiral.

KENSINGTON, was a small poor Village till the Court came there, but now it is become a large Town, and in its Square are Houses fit for the Entertainment of the greatest Quality.

THE Gardens of this Palace are very fine, and charmingly kept; and the Front of the Palace on that side is very noble.

ONE cannot be at *Kensington* without visiting *HAMSTED*, three Miles off, on the Brow of a Hill, from whence you have the fullest View of *London*. It's a large and pleasant Village with Mineral Waters as at *Tunbridge*; but the Company on the Walks are not near so good. Its nearness to *London* brings so many loose Women in vampt-up old Cloaths to catch the City Apprentices, that modest Company are ashamed to appear here even with their Relations. Here is abundance of Play during the Season, but it is all Diamond cutting Diamond.

THERE are abundance of pretty pleasant Lodgings in this Village, with a fine Heath to ride out and take the Air on, but the Company too mixt, and has little Choice.

A D-

ADJOINING to this Village the Duke of *Argyle* hath a fine Seat called *Caen-Wood*. You remember him at the Head of the *English* at the famous Battle of *Blaregnies*; but I shall do him wrong to mention him till I come to his own Country, where his Antient and Noble Family have been very conspicuous for so many Ages; and where his Personal Character will be best placed.

FROM *Kensington* in a little Hour through *High-Park* I arrived at *London*.

THIS Park is larger than the little Park at *Windsor* and not so large as the great one. It's enclos'd with a Brick-Wall of Six Miles circumference. It is well stock'd with Deer, and has abundance of fine Ponds, and Reservoirs of Water for the Benefit of the Court.

It's in this Park where the grand Tour or Ring is kept for the Ladies to take the Air in in their Coaches; and in fine Weather I have seen above 300 at a time. The Keeper's Lodge is extremely pretty; and belongs to a Gentleman of the Name of *Seymour*.

FROM *High-Park* cross the common Road enter'd the Lower, commonly called *St. James's Park* in the Confines of *London*, where I will take leave of you till my return from *Kent*, and am

Dear SIR,

Yours, &c.


L E T-



LETTER V.

Tunbridge-Wells, June the 20th, 1713.

S I R,


 O soon as the fine Weather came in, I fled from the lazy Life of *London* to begin my Summer-Circuit, and hired a Boat at *London-Bridge*, in order to view the beautiful River of *Thames* to its Mouth ; and then proceeded through the County commonly called *Kent*.

F O R the first Four Miles I sailed through a continued Forest of Ships of all Nations, the surest Proof of the Opulency of that City : and on each side of the River for those Four Miles, one sees nothing but Docks for Building of Ships.

T H A T of *Deptford*, belonging to the Queen, is very large, and puts me in mind of the Arsenal of *Venice*. Joyning to this Dock is *GREENWICH*, the Antient Residence of several Kings and Queens, and particularly of the famous Queen *Elizabeth*. The Palace is but small, and at present converted into the Governor's House of the *Royal Hospital* Erected here for decayed Seamen ; which for its Situation, Nobleness of Architecture, and Spaciousness, surpasses

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passes any thing of that Kind ; even one could almost wish himself a decayed Seaman to have so pleasant a Dwelling.

THE *Terrass* on the River is Noble : The two Wings for the Seamens Lodgings make a great *Area* in the Middle, which runs up to the Governor's House ; and behind that the most charming little Park in the World, adorned with curious Walks, and well stock'd with Deer. The Church and the great Hall of the Hospital are neatly Painted ; And when the whole is finished, according to its Plan, it will be a Master-piece of Symmetry.

THE Mathematician's House is on a Hill in the Middle of the Park, from whence one sees the whole City of *London*, and all the Ships in the River, whose going up and down every Tide makes a very diverting Prospect. And I must own, that neither *Frescaty* near *Rome*, nor *St. Michael del Bosco* near *Bologna*, so much admir'd for their Prospects, affords near the Variety of this.

BEHIND the Park is a large Plain called *Black-beath*, where are several Gentlemen's Seats very fine : Mr. *Sims*, a famous Gamester, hath a very Noble one, and well kept. Lieutenant-General *Withers*, General *Palms*, Brigadier *Richards*, and several others whom we have known abroad, have each their pleasant Retreats here. There is also on this Plain a little Hospital built by Sir *John Mordant* for decayed Merchants. And at *Greenwich* lie always the Queen's Yachts, worth the Curiosity of a Stranger.

FROM

FROM *Greenwich* in an Hour I arrived at *WOOLWICH*, where are the Magazines of Bombs, Carcasses, Mortars, and other Materials of the Artillery; As also a very good Dock for Building Men of War; And at Night I came to *Gravesend*, being Twenty Miles from *London*.

GRAVESEND, is a little confused Town where Ships generally take in their Provisions in going to Sea, and consequently it is always full of Seamen. There is a small Fort in it for stopping Ships till they are visited by the Custom-House Officers; and directly over-against it, on the other side of the River, is a very regular Fortification, called *Tilbury*, which commands the Passage, as *Land-guard-Fort* does that at *Harwich*. At *Gravesend*, Coaches ply on the People's Landing, to carry Passengers to *Rocheſter*, which is about Six Miles distance from thence; but being resolved to see the Mouth of this River I took a Boat next Morning for

SHEERNESS. This is a very large and strong Fortification, on an Island which divides the Mouth of the two Rivers, *Thames* and *Medway*. Here are good Apartments for the Officers of the Ordnance, the Navy, and the Garrison. It consists of three clean little Streets; and General *Withers* is the present Governour. Collonel *King*, who is Lieutenant-Governor, is also One of the Members of Parliament for a Neighbouring Corporation,

ration on the same Island, called *Queensborough*, but otherwise a very poor inconsiderable Place.

FROM *Sheerness* I took Boat up the River *Medway*, where all the First and Second-Rate Men of War lie, to *Rocheſter*. Theſe great Wooden-Caſtles lie Land-lock'd for ſeveral Miles together, as in a Harbour. And the City of *Rocheſter*, with the Town of *Chatham* that joyns it, makes a Semi-circle of above a Mile long, and gives a very handſom Proſpect from the River.

IN *CHATHAM* are the Magazines for Sails, Cordage, and the other Materials for Ships, all diſpoſed in the handſomeſt manner, with a very delicate Rope-Walk. And *ROCHESTER*, being a Biſhop's See, has a Cathedral, and ſends Members to Parliament.

THIS City alſo gives Title of Earl to the Family of *Hyde*, begun by the late Earl of *Clarendon*, Lord High Chancellor of *England*, the Noble Author of that celebrated Hiſtory of the Civil Wars, and Grandfather by the Mother's ſide to this preſent Queen. Here is nothing worth ſeeing in this City, nor hardly worth mentioning, except an old Caſtle that has lain many Years in decay; and a new Mathematical School Founded by Sir *Joſeph Wiſſiamſon*, whom we knew one of the Plenipotentiaries at the Treaty of *Ryſwick*, and uſed to be one of the Repreſentatives in Parliament for this City. Here is indeed a large Stone-bridge with high Iron Rails, which
put

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put me in mind of Mr. *Forbier's* description in his Voyage from *Paris* to *London*, in which he shews more of the Critic than the Traveller.

FROM *Rocheſter*, in two hours one arrives at a Village called *SITTINGBOROUGH*, where the Inns are very good. In two hours more, a little on the Left of the common Road, lies *FEVERSHAM*, remarkable only for being the Burial Place of King *Stephen*, and the Capture of the late King *James*, as he was making his Escape out of *England*, after the Arrival of the late Prince of *Orange*. It also gives Title of Earl to a Brother of the Family of *Duras* in *France*, who was General of King *James* his Army.

FROM *Feversham* we ascend the Hill called *Boughton*, from whence we saw *Canterbury* at Four Miles distance, and the Country all behind, very near to *London*.

CANTERBURY is the Metropolitan of *England*, situated in a pleasant Fertile Country. It appears round in our Approaches to it, but when you are in it it, is an exact Cross. The Four Streets running from *St. Andrew's Church*, which stands in the Middle, make the City, which takes up about Three Miles in Circumference, comprehending the Cathedral and Gardens.

THE Cathedral is one of the finest *Gothick* Buildings that I ever met with; it was the Model to the great Church of *Gaunt*, but This is somewhat larger. It is in the Form of a Cross

with a high Stone Tower, built on the^d Top of the Middle in the manner of a *Cupola*. You ascend to the Choir by Steps of Stairs as at *Gaunt*. And from the Choir you ascend still to the Chappel of the famous *Thomas a Becket*, who was Canoniz'd a Saint, for his being Murthered in this Church by order of the King, for his Obstinacy in supporting the Pope's Authority against that of the Royal.

THIS Chappel before the *Reformation*, according to *Erasmus* who then saw it, was so full of Jewels, and Gold, and Silver, as dazled the Eyes of the Beholders, like the *Loretto* of this Age. And the *English* Historians tell you, that the Riches which King *Henry* the Eighth caused to be transported from hence, filled Two large Chests, which employed Eight Men to carry each.

THERE are still some Remains of *Mosaick* Work in that Chappel; and in the Windows of the Church are finely painted the History of the Old and New Testament. There are also some Noble Monuments in this Church, particularly that of *Edward* the *Black-Prince*; *Henry* the Fourth, and Cardinal *Pool*. The Widow of Sir *Cloudesly Shovel*, Admiral of *England*, who was unfortunately cast away in his Return from the *Mediterranean*, hath erected a Monument to his Memory here, as the Queen hath done another at *Westminster*. Under the Choir, is the Church of the *Walloons*, who were driven out of *Flanders* in the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*,
E by

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by the Persecution of the Duke of *Alva*; and of the *French*, who were likewise driven out by *Lewis* the XIVth. These People have established a Manufactory of Silk here, which they have brought to a good Perfection.

THERE are reckoned Sixteen Parish-Churches here, but the City in its Buildings makes but an indifferent Figure, and much inferior to any called a City abroad. There are indeed some Gentlemen's Seats in the Neighbourhood; that of *Sir George Rook*, who so often commanded the *English* Navy, joins to the Town, but has nothing answerable to the Figure he made in the World. Mr. *Fellour's* Gardens at *Byfronts* are indeed worth seeing; as also *Sir Basil Dixwel's* on the Skirts of *Parham-Downs* near this City; with several others of no great Consequence.

FROM *Canterbury* I went to *MARGATE* in Four Hours, with design to proceed along the Sea-Coast; but I must own to you, that I was very sorry I went so much out of my Road; for it is a poor pittiful Place, though the Isle of *Thanet*, in which it is situated, is a fine Country, yet there's hardly a Gentleman's House in it.

RAMSGATE, Five Miles further, is something better; and *Deal*, makes a pretty good Figure.

HERE are the *Downs*, of which we have so frequently read in our *Gazettes*, where Ships of all Nations so often Anchor, and we Foreign-
ers

ers very little understand ; you will therefore expect from me the Description.

THE DOWNS is the open Sea, between Two Promontories of Land, called the *North* and *South-Foreland*, about Six Miles distant from each other ; with Banks called the *Goodwin-Sands*, running between their Points, which break the Force of the Sea, from the Ships riding in the Bay within ; and is therefore called the *Downs*, or a Bed to repose in. This continual Shipping makes *Deal*, which lies in a Bay, a thriving Place : There are Three Castles to secure it, viz. *Deal-Castle*, *Sandown*, and *Wamar*.

It was here that *Julius Caesar* landed, when he design'd for *England* ; and there are still some Remains of his *Rutapia*, now called *Richborough*.

FROM *Deal* I went to *SANDWICH*, one of the Cinque-Ports, but now much in decay : However, it sends Members to Parliament, and gives Title of Earl to a Branch of the Family of *Montague*.

FROM *Sandwich*, I took the Seat of our Old Fellow-Traveller, Sir *Robert Furnes*, in my way to *Dover* ; and must own to you, that nothing can be imagined Finer : The House, Gardens, Park, the Star cut out into Alleys in his Wood, and the Bowling-Green, were greatly designed by his late Father, Sir *Henry*, who re-

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mitted the Money to the Armies abroad, and has left his Son a very plentiful Estate.

HE keeps a Pack of Dogs, and gave me very good Diversion, in what they call the *Warren* here, which is a delicate open Country between *Dover-Castle* and *Deal*; and from whence, one hath a full Prospect of the Sea, and the Coasts of *France*.

DOVER-CASTLE, is Situated on a Chaulky Rock, is very high and lofty towards the Sea, and above Two *English* Miles in Circumference. It was formerly called the *Key of England*; and before the Use of Cannon, might be reckoned Impregnable; but now it is of no manner of Service, but to be a Prison. It stands too high to hurt any Ship at Sea, and by Land it could not stand a formal Siege half a Day.

THEY say, that this Castle was built by *Julius Caesar*, and is the *Dubria* of the *Romans*; they also shew you a *Chinese* Trumpet of *Corinthian* Brass like a Horn; which, as is reported, has been kept there ever since his Time.

BUT nothing so much confirms to me its being a *Roman* Colony, as its Well, a Work surpassing any Thing of that kind since their Days: One cannot imagine its Depth, since at present, notwithstanding they throw Stones into it Twenty Times every Day; and perhaps have done so for these several Hundred Years, to shew Strangers its wonderful Abyfs; yet it is still a good half Mile to the Water. It is round, large,

and

and all lined with Free-Stone to the Bottom : It is pity that some Lord-Warden doth not order it to be cleansed of these Stones, and forbid the throwing in more for the future. The Water is drawn up by a Wheel wherein Men walk ; and it is a Noble Piece of Antiquity if well kept.

THE Remains of the Royal Palace, the Chappel, Stables, and Offices here, shew that it has been something very Vast, but now all decayed, except the Walls, which still hold very good : Here is the longest Piece of *Brass Ordnance* in the World, which was presented by the States of *Utrecht* to *Queen Elizabeth*, and is called her *Pocket-Pistol* ; but being too long, and all of a bigness, is of no Use now.

FROM the Castle we descend a steep Hill, to the Town of *Dover*, the Common Passage to *France* and *Flanders* ; it consists of one Street about a Mile long, and the Houses and Street the poorest, and worst paved, that ever I almost saw. King *Henry* the VIIIth, laid the Foundation of a Noble Harbour here ; and notwithstanding the Parliament gave Ten Thousand Pounds in the late Keign of King *William* to improve it, it is still but a poor Business, except for small Ships, and at high Water.

THIS Town sends Members to Parliament, and gives Title of Duke to that Branch of the House of *Douglafs*, called *Queensborough*. Here arrive and pass the Packet-Boats twice a Week ; and the Courts of the Warden of the *Cinque-Ports*.

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of which Office, I shall give you some Account in finishing my Letter) are kept here.

FROM *Dover* along the Sea-Coast, I passed by a miserable fishing Town, called *Folkston*, miserable in its Appearance, yet I was told there are above Three Hundred Sail of Fishing Boats belonging to it; and in an Hour more arrived at another larger Port, called *Hythe*. Here I was surprized to see a Collection of dead Heads and Bones, kept in a great Room, in as good Order as Books are in a Library: There is an Inscription to shew, that they are the Remains of the *Danes*, killed in a Battle before the *Norman* Conquest, near this Place. They are very Gy-gantick, and consist of several Thousands. This Town also sends Two Members to Parliament, but is in it self a miserable Place. From thence through *Rumney-Marsh*, (a Meadow Land exactly like *North-Holland*) in Four Hours I got to *Rumney*, another poor pitiful Corporation, which sends Two Members to Parliament; and in Three Hours more, through these Meadows, I arriv'd at *Rye*.

THIS Marsh, or Meadow Ground, is the celebrated Place, from whence the *English* have for so many Ages exported their *Wooll* to *France*, to the Prejudice of their own Manufactures; which notwithstanding all the Care of the Government is still carried on.

RTE,

R T E, is likewise a poor miserable *Cinque-Port*, which sends Members to Parliament : It's well Situated on a Hill, with a fine Harbour under it, fit by Nature to receive any Shipping; but why it is so much neglected I cannot imagine : I am sure the *Dutch*, or *French*, would with small Expence make it one of the usefullest Harbours in the World, being in the Mouth of the Channel; and the Banks that have choak'd this Harbour, have happened partly from the Negligence and Laziness of the Inhabitants; and partly from some of its Neighbouring Gentry, who have interestedly gained from the Sea, and enclosed a considerable Part of the Harbour, making Arable Land of it. But that is the Peoples Business, and not mine.

BEING now at the Extremity of the County of *Kent*, I took my way back to *ASHFORD*, a very pretty Market-Town; and as I remov'd from the Sea-Coast, found Gentlemens Seats to begin to appear again; for indeed *Rumney-Marsh* is but one continued Meadow of good Twenty Miles long, and Eight or Nine broad. The finest Seat I met with in my way, was that of the Earl of *Winchelsea*, called *Eastwell* : Its Situation is Noble; its Park as Fine as any I have seen, well planted with Old Trees; and the House Venerable, and worthy of a Great Man, the Prospect being very commanding.

IN Five Hours from hence, I came through a delicious Country to *MAIDSTONE*, the Capital of the County. Here are kept the Courts of Justice; the Elections for the Members of Parliament for the County are also made here, and this Town also sends its Representatives, I never was better pleas'd in any Place than this, which made me stay here some Days; for the Company is good, and the Families for Ten Miles round, are worth amongst them Fifty Thousand Pounds a Year. Every Body gives good Equipages; and at Church it's hardly to be exprest the Fineness of the Assembly. Its Parish is very large, and the Arch-Bishop of *Canterbury* is always Parson there.

From *Maidstone*, I continued my Journey in Five Hours hither, and within Three Miles of the Place, found a Venerable Old Seat, which they told me belonged to the Family of the *Villars*, Dukes of *Buckingham* (but now out of Order) called *Sommerhill*. It's pity so Beautiful a Place should lie neglected; for its Situation is Noble, and its Gardens have been very large: I could see above Fifty Miles in full View, from its Apartments.

TUNBRIDGE-WELLS, the Rendez-vous of all the Gentry of the Neighbouring County, and of the best Citizens Families in *London*, during the Summer Season, lies in a Bottom between Two Hills; the one called *Mount-Sion*; the

the other *Mount-Ephraim* ; both abounding in Houses and Gardens, for the Reception of those that come to Drink the Waters for their Health ; or to participate of the Pleasures of the Place.

THE *Well* is large, paved, and surrounded with a Wall ; and Two paved Walks run from it : On one side of which, is a Row of Shops and Coffee-Rooms, for the Entertainment of the Company : And on the other, a very good Market. Behind the *Well* is a very large Chapel, where Divine Service is performed twice a Day.

THE Manner of living at *Tunbridge* is very Diverting for one Week ; but as there is no other Variety but in new Faces, it soon proves Tiresome to a Stranger.

WE rise in the Morning and go to the *Wells*, where Gentlemen and Ladies mix together in *Dishabillie*, to drink the Waters : At Nine we go Home to dress ; and at Ten, the Company returns, some to go to Church, and others to the Coffee-Houses, where one is very well informed of what passes in the World.

AFTER Prayers, all the Company appears on the Walks in the greatest Splendor, Musick playing all the Time ; and the Ladies and Gentlemen divert themselves with Ruffling, Hazard, Drinking of Tea, and Walking till Two, when they go to Dinner.

THERE is as little Ceremony here, as is at *Montpelier* : You engage with the Ladies at Play without any Introduction, only they do
not

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not admit of Visits at their Lodgings; but every Gentleman is equally received by the Fair Sex upon the Walks.

THIS Indistinction is attended with one Inconvenience, That Sharpers, whose Trade is to go Genteel, and with a fine Address, mix themselves in all the Diversions here; and with their false Dice very often send People from the Wells sooner than they would otherwise go.

THESE People are easily discovered, by their more than ordinary Assiduity to Strangers. They are the first that bid you beware of Sharpers, when they design themselves to pick your Pockets. All Shop-keepers are in Fee with these Fellows, and it is they who furnish the Dice for them.

IN the Afternoon there are Bowling-Greens for those that love that Diversion; and in those Greens are Balls four Times a Week for the Young People; and where every Gentleman may Dance if he pleases.

AT Night the Company generally returns to the Shops on the Walks, where is all manner of Play till Midnight.

THIS, Sir, is the daily Life of *Tunbridge*; and, as I told you before, hath no other Variety but new Faces; and those we have Beautiful every Day.

THE *Sussex* fresh-coloured Lasses, in their high crown'd Hats, are no small Ornament to the Place.

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I BELIEVE there is no Place in the World better to begin an Intrigue in than this, nor than *London* to finish it. In Two or Three Days I shall make the Tour of *Suffex*; and my next, I hope, shall be from *Petworth*.

KENT, is a large and noble Province, it gives Title of Duke to the Chief of the Family of *de Grays*, who however, as in other Counties, (as I have observed to you before) hath neither Interest, nor Estate here. There are abundance of Nobility that reside in this County; *Tufton*, Earl of *Thannet*, hath a Noble Seat, and as great an Estate; *Finch*, Earl of *Winchelsea*; *Sackville*, Earl of *Dorset*, who was Governor of the *Cinque-Ports*, and Constable of *Dover-Castle*, but just removed from that Employment as I pass there, it being then given to the Duke of *Ormond*; *Sidney*, Earl of *Leicester*; *Villars*, Earl of *Fersey*; the Lord *Rockingham*, who has a vast Estate; *Roper*, Lord *Tenham*, a *Roman Catholick*; and an infinite number of other fine Gentry.

To conclude: This County sends Twenty Members to Parliament, viz. Two from the County; and Two from each of the Cities and Towns of *Canterbury*, *Rochester*, *Maidstone*, *Queensborough*, *Sandwich*, *Dover*, *Hythe*, *Rumney*, and *Winchelsea*.



LET.



LETTER VI.

PETWORTH, Sept. 2d, 1713.

S I R,



 YOU may believe that it was with no small difficulty, that I left so Pleasant a Place as *Tunbridge*, where it's impossible to be long without making a particular Engagement; and good Manners, as well as Inclination, retained me, till my Mistress went away first, in order to meet again at *London*.

I RODE over *CROW-BERT-HILL*, taking the Burial-Place of the *Sackvill's*, Earls of *Dorset*, in my Way; whose Monuments shew the Grandeur, as well as Antiquity of that Noble Family. His Principal Seat, called *Knowles*, lies some Miles from *Tunbridge*, and is very Noble, as well as that of *Sidney*, Earl of *Leicester*, called *Penthurst*. These Two Noble Peers are great Ornaments to the *Wells*, where they come very often.

FROM

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FROM *Crow-bery-Hill*, I had a full View of what they call the *Wild* of *Sussex*, lying like a Sea flat under me; and here and there a Gentleman's Seat, or a Church, seem like so many Ships, with the Hilly-Downs rising like a bold Shoar at Twenty Miles distance on the other side.

THIS *WILD* may be Fifty Miles long, and Twenty broad, and exactly resembles *Lombardy* in *Italy*, being every where planted with Trees, as that is.

IN order to pursue my Design, I went to the First Sea-Port Town, called *HASTINGS*, one of the *Cinque-Ports*, that sends Members to Parliament; but otherwise a very poor and indifferent Place. Near it was fought the Famous Battle between the *Saxons* and *Normans*; in which *Harold* the *Saxon* King being kill'd, the Crown fell to *William* the *Conqueror*, and continued to that Race ever since.

FROM *Hastings*, along the Coasts I arriv'd at *PEMSAT*, where there is an Old Castle, built by *William* the *Conqueror*; but given by *Henry* the IVth, to the Antient and Noble Family of *Pelham*, who enjoys it at this Day. The Antient Seat of that Family with a fine Park, as also that of my Lord *Ashburnham*, are at a few Miles distance; and the prettiest little Church with Three Altars that I have seen in
England,

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England, both answerable to the Grandeur and Magnificence of these Noble Lords. The last now commands the First Troop of her Majesty's Horse-Guards.

I LAY at a pretty Village called *EAST-BORN*, and Supp'd upon some little Birds, called *Whit-ears*, resembling our *Ortolans*. This is the chief Place where these Birds are taken. I had the Pleasure of going out the next Morning a catching of them with a Shepherd, and took Two Dozen for a Breakfast. The Manner of catching them is very particular; they cut a Turf of about a Foot long, and half a Foot deep, and turn the Turf to cover the Hole, in which they put a Snare of Horse-Hair, and the Birds being very shy on the approach of any Thing, running into these Holes for shelter, are taken.

THIS Village lies under the Promontory so famous for the loss of Ships, called *Beachy-head*, wherein are several Caverns like great Vaults, which, I suppose, are made by the Sea. I ascended this Promontory, and on the Top of these Hills, called the *Downs of Sussex*, in Four Hours time, on the finest Carpet in the World, without hardly seeing a Tree, I arriv'd at *Lewis*.

LEWIS is the most Romantick Situation I ever saw; it consists of Six Parishes, in which Gentlemens Seats joining to one another, with their Gardens up Hill and down Hill, compose the Town, which sends Members to Parliament

There

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There is one Thing remarkable at the Entry of one of the Churches, which confirms the Antiquity of the Place ; and that is an Antient Monument of a *Danish* Prince : The Inscription of which begins,

Clauditur hic Miles Danorum Regia proles,

MAGNUS Nomen ei, &c.

I OFTEN trouble you with Prospects, but I am sure you'll forgive this, when I tell you that from the Wind-mill near *Lewis*, is the Prospect of the largest Extent that ever I saw ; it far exceeds that of *Cleeves*, *Nimeguen*, the Castle of *Nuremburgh* ; and even *St. Michael del Bosco* in *Italy* : You see Westward the Sea at Thirty Miles distance ; and Eastward an uninterrupted View to *Bansted-Downs* in *Surrey*, near *London*, of full Fifty Miles.

THERE is a little River that runs through the middle of the Town, which makes a Sea-Port at Eight Miles distance ; and on this River there are several Iron-Works, wherein they make Cannon for Merchant Ships, and several other profitable Works of that nature : From this Town to the Sea, is the best Winter Game for a Gun that can be imagined : Several Gentlemen here keep Packs of Dogs, but I own, I don't like their way of Hunting, for you must follow the Dogs up Hill and down Hill, at the hazard of your Neck, or you are thrown out of

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of the Sport; and the Horses run down a Precipice naturally without harin, except your Fear or Ignorance, makes you stop them, and then you endanger the Loss of both your own Life, and that of your Horses.

I CANNOT recommend this as the Pleasantest Part of *England* that I have seen; but considering its Cheapness, its not being under the Direction of a Corporation (as most other Towns are) but govern'd by Gentlemen: It is the best Retreat I have seen for Half-Pay Officers, who cannot confine themselves within the Rules of a County-Corporation.

I CONTINUED on these *Downs* from *Lewis*, and in Six Hours arriv'd at *ARUNDELL*, having the Prospect of the Sea on my left, and the County on my right, all a barren Hunting Country; this poor Town sends also Members to Parliament; and hath a particular Privilege, that whoever is Earl of it, is also the first Earl of *England*. The Title hath belonged a long Time to the Dukes of *Norfolk*, who have an Old Castle here, but much neglected, though a noble Situation.

SHOREHAM another miserable poor Town, which also sends Members to Parliament, was in my way; but I made haste to get to *Chichester*, a pretty little City in the Form of a Cross, wall-ed round, with a Gate at the entry of each of the Four Streets; which are neater than most

of the Country Towns I have seen. You have a full View of the Sea, but no Harbour for Shipping. Its Cathedral is but indifferent, except the Stone Spire. Here are also the Pictures of all the Bishops of that See, which fill up a Corner of the Church. The Town consists of Six Parishes, and the Situation as good as can be imagined.

T H E R E are the Remains of some Old Roman Camps near the City; One upon *St. Rook's-Hill*, of a Circular Form, another at *Gone's-Hill*, of an Oblong-Square; and that of *Vespasian*, when he landed here, called the *Brill*, still fresh, of an Oblong Form, environ'd with a large Rampart, and a single Graff.

A L I T T L E Mile from hence is the Seat of the present Duke of *Richmond*, Son to King *Charles* the II^d. by the Dutcheis of *Portsmouth*, Situated very advantageously; and overlooks the City, and all the Neighbouring Country to the Sea. This Nobleman is a Generous, Worthy, Good Man, and well beloved in his Country: But the Earl of *Scarborough's* Seat at some Miles distance is, *une veritable bijoux*; the large Avenue, a View cut through a Wood, the Stables, the Gardens, and every Thing else is nobly disposed. The present Earl was Lieutenant-General, and Commander of the First Troop of Horse Guards to King *William*, and one of the Lords of his Bed-Chamber; is a great Assertor of the Constitution of his Country; Eldest Brother to that General *Lumley* whom we knew in
F *Flanders*;

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Flanders; and Father to my Lord *Lumley*; the Ornament of the Army.

FROM *Chichester*, in Four Hours I arriv'd at *PETWORTH*, the Antient Seat of the *Piercys*, Earls of *Northumberland*; but now belongs to the Duke of *Somerset*, who married the Heiress. This Palace is every way answerable to the Grandeur of its Great Master, whose Family hath always made one of the brightest Figures in the *English* Court, ever since the Reign of *Henry* the VIIIth, wherein it was enobled. The present Duke hath been conspicuous in the House of Peers, in all the Three last Reigns; was President of the Council to *K. William*, and Master of the Horse to the present Queen, and is a true Patriot.

HE hath pulled down the Old House, all except the Chappel, where in the Windows are painted the Inter-Marriages of the Noble Family of the *Piercys*. The New House consists of a noble large Front of Free-Stone, with Statues on the Top: On the left as you enter is the *Orangery*, where is the most Curious Collection of *Ever-Greens*, and the largest sized Trees kept in Tubs that ever I saw: The Great Stairs are Noble, and the Apartment where the present Emperor Lodg'd when he came from *Portsmouth* to visit the Queen at *Windsor*, on his way to *Portugal*, is truly Royal, equal to that of any Prince in *Europe*; the *Bagnio*, and all the Offices be-

low

low, are very Nice ; and here is One Vault of near 400 Foot long.

ON the left of the Avenue to the House, is a Noble *Terrass* which joins to the *Orangery*, and hath a fine Old Grove of Trees at the other End : Here one hath an open Prospect of the Neighbouring Country, and it's pity that the New House was not built here ; but, I suppose, the Conveniency of the Chappel, and the Vaults, was one great Reason why his Grace built this New House on the Foundations of the Old.

ON the Right Hand as you enter the Palace, there is a large Orchard, with a Kitchen Garden ; and at Half a Mile's distance fronting it, were most Sumptuous Stables, with a Riding-House, of Free-Stone, as big as a Cloyster, which the present Duke hath pulled down, to enlarge his Avenue.

FEW Subjects abroad have such Palaces ; those at *Prague* in *Bohemia* come the nearest to this ; theirs indeed excel any of the Emperor's, their Master's. But what is particular in the Duke of *Somerset* is, that all his Palaces are compleatly Furnished, and he moves to them without removing any Thing from his other Seats. There are several other Gentlemens Seats in the Village, which are very large, and where a Stranger is as well lodged as he can wish : The Country round it being Fat and Fertile, makes the Roads bad in Winter ; whereas the *Downs*, which are Two Hours from hence, are firm and solid all the Year round ; and to which his Grace must have the Mortifica-

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tion to ride in the Dirt when he goes a Hunting.

SUSSEX gives Title of Earl to a Nobleman of the Name of *Leonard*, who hath neither Estate, nor Interest in the County; he was advanced to that Dignity by marrying a Natural Daughter of King *Charles* the II^d, as I observed my Lord *Passon* was to that of *Yarmouth*. The Dukes of *Somerset* and *Richmond*; the Earls of *Dorset* and *Scarborough*; the Lords *Grey*, *Asburnham* and *Pelham*; with the Viscount *Montacute* (a Roman Catholick Family of the Name of *Brown*) are the most considerable Noblemen in this County, which sends Two and Twenty Members to Parliament, viz. Two for the County, and Two from each of the Towns of *Hastings*, *Rye*, *Seaford*, *Arundel*, *Shoreham*, *Chichester*, *Lewis*, *Horsham*, *Staining*, and *Bramber*.

I AM now making haste to *Epsom*, before the fine Season is over; from whence I shall observe to you what remains worth seeing in *Surrey*, and then you'll allow me a little Winter Repose. I design after my Arrival at *London*, to proceed to *Oxford*, and so to the *Bath*; from whence I am assured I shall be able to entertain you yet better than I have done. Adieu.


LET



LETTER VII.

EPROM, Sept. 10th, 1713. S

S I R,

FROM *Petworth* I took the poor Town of *STERNING* in my way, which sends Members to Parliament; as also *BRAMBER*, a yet more miserable Place, there being scarce a House in it fit for a Stable. These poor Towns through which I have lately past, that send Members to Parliament equal to their Counties, I think, are a mighty Blemish to the Constitution of *England*; and a great Bait for Corruption; for a Court, by gaining the little Towns with Money, may whenever they please have a Majority in the House of Commons; nor does it seem reasonable that a whole County, or Province, where there are perhaps Ten or Twelve Thousand Electors, should send but Two Members, and that every one of these poor, pitiful, paltry Towns should send the same: But this, it may be you'll say, is an Observation too bold for a Stranger.

FROM *Bramber* I arriv'd at *CROYDEN*, a large Village, in which is an Antient Palace of the Arch-bishop of *Canterbury's*, and so thro' *KARSHALTON* (where I visited the fine Gardens of *Sir William Scawen*, our Old Friend); in an Hour after I arriv'd at *EPSOM*, leaving the pleasant Village of *Micham* on my right Hand.

EPSOM is a Charming Town, which from the Church to the Lord *Guilford's* Palace, may make a good Mile and a Half, in a *Semi-Circle*; all the Houses have Gardens, and Trees before their Doors, so that it seems a continued Grove; and the Plain in the middle of the *Semi-Circle* may be Half a Mile over, opening to the *Downs*.

THIS Place, being nearer *London* than *Tunbridge*, is more frequented by the Citizens, for its purging *Mineral-Waters*, and good Air; and what is extremely convenient, you have a travelling Market of Flesh, Fish, Fowl, and Fruit, brought to your Doors every Morning.

HERE are Two *Bowling-Greens*, with Raffleing Shops, and Musick for the Ladies Diversion, as at *Tunbridge*; but the Ladies do not appear every Day on the Walks as there. Here you see them on *Saturdays* in the Evening, as their Husbands come from *London*; on *Sundays* at Church, and on *Mondays*, in all their Splendor, when there are Balls in the *Long-Rooms* and

and many of them shake their Elbows at *Passage* and *Hazard* with a good Grace.

THIS Place swarms with that Vermin, called *Sharpers*, as *Tunbridge* does; and one Risks very much that plays further than Ruffling with the Ladies, to make an Acquaintance, which is very easy. Besides, the Ladies receive Visits at their Lodgings here, which is not permitted at *Tunbridge*; and one may civilly take Lodgings in the same House with the Lady he has Designs upon, and have all the Opportunity imaginable to carry on the Intrigue.

EPSOM is the Place in the World the freest from Censure and Observation; for Mankind seems to be here *Incognito* all the Week, except on *Mondays* and *Saturdays-Even*; and you may be here a Year together before your nearest Acquaintance asks you where you Lodge, except you invite him; every Body seems to have Business enough on their Hands of his own, not to mind that of any Bodies else.

IN the Morning Gentlemen faunter about in their Gowns at the Wells, as at *Tunbridge*, or play at Bowls.

AFTER Dinner we Ride out on the *Downs*, which are very fine indeed, or take a Coach to the Ring, where all the good Company of the Neighbourhood come in fair Weather; and at Night a Party at Cards, Ruffling in the *Long-Rooms*, or a Bottle at the Tavern, finishes your Evening.

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ON *Sundays* in the Afternoon, the Company generally go to a Charming Place called *Box-hill*, about Six Miles off, where there is no House, but Arbors cut out in *Box-Wood* on the Top of the Hill, and there you may have for your Money all manner of Refreshments; and it's very easy for Gentlemen and Ladies insensibly to lose their Company in these pretty Labyrinths of *Box-Wood*, and divert themselves unperceived. From hence one hath a most delicious commanding Prospect of a fine Country, and it may be justly called the Palace of *VENUS*.

THIS Place was first planted with *Box-Wood* by that Famous Antiquary, *Thomas Earl of Arundel*, designing to have built a House there; but want of Water made him alter his Resolution, and build one at *Albury*, hard by, now belonging to the Lord *Guernsey*, and which sufficiently justifies the true Idea the World have had of that Great Architect, its first Founder.

IF you would know *Epsom* more particularly, and in a more florid Stile than what I can express myself in, you will find it in the following diverting Letter, writ by a Gentleman to his Mistress, who desir'd the Description of it.

MADAM,

MADAM,

EPSOM is a Village in the County of
Surrey, much frequented for its most
healthful Air, and excellent *Mineral-Waters* :
Is distant about Fourteen *Italian Miles* from
London-Bridge, and Twelve from Fox-ball :
It is deliciously situated in a warm even Bot-
tom, between the finest *Downs* in the World
on the one side, (taking its Name from the
Village of *Bansted*, seated on their very Ridge)
and certain Clay-Hills on the other side, which
are variously chequered with Woods and Groves
of Oak, Ash, Elm, and Beech ; with both
the Poplars ; the intoxicating Yew, and the florid
White-Beam ; the Wythe-Tree, the Horn-Beam,
and the correcting Birch ; are not wanting.

I NEED not mention the numberless
Copses of Hazel, Thorn, Holly, Maple, and
other Trees and Shrubs of Dwarfish Growth,
that agreeably diversify all this Country : Nor
that, for the most Part, they are amorously
claspt in the twining Embraces of Ivy and
Honey-Suckles. The *Downs* being covered
with Grass, finer than *Persian* Carpets, and
perfumed with Wild Thyme and Juniper,
run Thirty Miles in Length, though under
different Appellations, from *Croyden* to *Farn-*
bam : And for Sheep-Walks, Riding, Hunt-
ing, Racing, Shooting, with Games of most
sorts for Exercise of the Body, or Recreation
of

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‘ of the Mind ; and a perpetual Chain of Vil-
 ‘ lages within a Mile or less of each other be-
 ‘ neath ; they are no where else to be parallel’d.
 ‘ The Form of this our Village as seen from
 ‘ thence, is exactly *Semi-Circular*, beginning
 ‘ with a Church, and ending with a Palace : Or,
 ‘ least our Stile here should offend you, (*Madam*,)
 ‘ it has a Palace for its Head, and a Church for
 ‘ its Tail ; Mr. *Whisler*’s far Conspicuous Grove
 ‘ making, as it were, a beautiful Knot in the
 ‘ middle.

‘ *EPSOM* never misses of the *Eastern* or the
 ‘ *Western* Sun, and is about a Mile in Length :
 ‘ The *Area* within the bending of the Bow, or
 ‘ Half-Moon, being a spacious Plain of Corn-
 ‘ Fields opening to the *Downs*.

‘ To these ever-Green Mountains of Chalk,
 ‘ you may out of every House insensibly ascend,
 ‘ without so much as a Hedge to obstruct the
 ‘ Air or the Passage. Indeed the Risings are
 ‘ many times so easy, that you find your self
 ‘ got to the Top without perceiving that you
 ‘ mounted. From the Circumference of the
 ‘ *Semi-circle* there branch out two or three plea-
 ‘ sant Lanes, being the Extremities of the Roads
 ‘ which lead to the Town from the slow De-
 ‘ clivities of the Neighbouring Hills. These are
 ‘ preferred to the principal Street by such as are
 ‘ Lovers of Silence and Retirement, and are
 ‘ known by the Names of *Clay-Hill*, *New-Inn-*
 ‘ *Lane*, and *Woodeot-Green*, in which last Place
 ‘ your Humble Servant has his Hermitage ;
 ‘ There

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‘ There are other Allies and Outlets of meaner
‘ Note. Among them I don’t reckon the Ave-
‘ nue leading up the Hill to *Durdans*, the Pa-
‘ lace I just now mentioned, nor yet *Hudson’s*-
‘ *Lane*, which I remember for the sake of *Epsom*-
‘ *Court*, that Antient *Saxon* Seat (long since
‘ converted into a Farm) the Mother and Ori-
‘ ginal of our Subject.

‘ Now all these By-Places are so separated
‘ from each other, by Fields, Meadows, Hedge-
‘ Rows, Plantations, Orchards, and the like,
‘ that they seem to be so many distinct lit-
‘ tle Villages uniting into one considerable
‘ Town at the large Street, in the middle of
‘ which stands the *Watch-house*. Several Per-
‘ sons who have chosen this sweet Place for
‘ their constant Abode, are distinguished from
‘ the rest by their Habitations, as they are ei-
‘ ther by their Birth or Fortunes; but the Hou-
‘ ses of the very Townsmen are every where
‘ mighty neat, built most of them after the
‘ newest manner, and extreamly convenient;
‘ being purposely contrived for the Entertain-
‘ ment of Strangers, and therefore beautify’d by
‘ the Owners to the utmost of their Ability.

‘ THE Fronts are adorned throughout with
‘ Rows of *Elm* or *Lime-Trees*, in many Places
‘ artificially wreathed into Verdant Porticos, cut
‘ into Variety of Figures, and close enough
‘ wrought to defend those who sit under such Ho-
‘ spitable Shades, from the Injuries of the Sun and
‘ the Rain. Here sometimes Breakfast and Supper
‘ are taken, as at other times a chearful Glass
‘ and

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‘ and a Pipe ; for these vegetable Canopies in
‘ the very Heat of the Day yield a grateful and
‘ refreshing Coolness, by the fanning Breezes
‘ they collect from the delicate Air of the
‘ *Downs*. The finest of them all is that which
‘ shades the Pav’d *Terrass*, in the Centre of the
‘ Town, extending quite along before the Chief
‘ *Tavern* and *Coffee-House*. By the Conversation
‘ of those who walk there, you wou’d fancy
‘ your self to be this Minute on the *Exchange*,
‘ and the next Minute at St. *James’s* ; one
‘ while in an *East-India* Factory or a *West-India*
‘ Plantation, and another while with the Army
‘ in *Flanders*, or on Broad the Fleet in the *Oce-*
‘ *an* ; nor is there any Profession, Trade, or
‘ Calling, that you can miss of here, either for
‘ your Instruction, or for your Diversion. Be-
‘ hind the Houses are handsome, though not
‘ large Gardens, generally furnished with pret-
‘ ty Walks, and planted with Variety of Sal-
‘ lads and Fruit-Trees, which in several of
‘ them are all left free for the Lodgers ; such
‘ as neglect their Gardens find their Error in
‘ the Emptiness of their Rooms.

‘ Thus when you are on the Top of the
‘ *Downs*, it’s one of the loveliest Prospects imagi-
‘ nable, to view in the Vale below such an agreea-
‘ ble mixture of Trees and Buildings, that a Stran-
‘ ger is at a loss to know (as it has been observed
‘ of my beloved City of *Leyden* in *Holland*) whe-
‘ ther it be a Town in a Wood or a Wood in a
‘ Town. One thing is wanting, and happy is the
‘ the

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the Situation that wants no more ; for in this Place (notwithstanding the *Medicinal Waters*, and sufficient of sweeter for Domestick Use) are not to be heard the precipitant Murmurs of impetuous *Cascades*. There are no Purling Streams in our Groves to temper the shrill Notes of the warbling Choristers, whose never-ceasing Concerts exceed *Bononcini* and *Corelli*. The Woods are not frequented by the unhappy, that they may listen to the soft Whispers of some gentle Rivulet, to beguile and mitigate their Cares : The Vallies are not divided by the circling Waves, and sporting Whirlpools of rapid Rivers ; neither are the flowry Meads refreshed by gliding Meanders, cool bubbling Springs or stagnant Lakes. I leave you to guess, whether in these Periods I designed to show how well read I am in Bombast Romance, or rather to exhibit the various Images under which Water naturally delights us in the Country.

EWEL, an Antient Market-Town within a short Mile, has a most plentiful Spring, the Head of a Crystal Brook, capable were it here, to furnish a Thousand Ornaments and Conveniencies. And I am persuaded from Physical Reasons, that the digging of a Trench about Four or Five Foot deep, for a Quarter of a Mile (along the Rivulet over *Epsom-Court Meadows*) from the now uncertain Springs in *Church-Street*, wou'd quickly produce a Stream, that

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' that in three Quarters of a Mile farther should
 ' fall in with the other, and give it the more
 ' dignify'd Name of *Epsom-River*. But this pre-
 ' sent Defect (for I augurate an approaching
 ' Remedy) is amply recompensed by every
 ' thing besides. The two rival *Bowling-Greens*
 ' are not to be forgot, on which all the Com-
 ' pany by turns, after diverting themselves in
 ' the Morning according to their different Fan-
 ' cies, make a gallant Appearance every Evening,
 ' (especially on *Mondays*) Musick playing most
 ' of the Day, and Dancing some time crown-
 ' ing the Night. The Ladies to shew their in-
 ' nate Inclination to Variety, are constantly
 ' tripping from one Green to the other, and the
 ' Men are not more sure to follow them, than
 ' glad of the Occasion, to excuse their own no-
 ' less Propensity to change. Here the *British*
 ' Beauties, like so many animated Stars, shine
 ' in their brightest Lustre, not half so much by
 ' their precious Jewels and costly Apparel, as
 ' by the more pointed Glories of their Eyes.
 ' Here every old Man wishes himself Young
 ' again, and the Heart of every Youth is Cap-
 ' tivated at once, and divided between a Thou-
 ' sand deserving Charms. A fairer Circle was
 ' never seen at *Baia* or *Cumæ* of old, nor of
 ' late at *Carlesbad*, or *Aix-la-Chapelle*, than is
 ' to be admired on the *High-Green*, and in the
 ' *Long-Room* on a Publick Day. If the *German*
 ' Baths out-number us in Princesses, we out-shine
 ' them in Nymphs and Goddesses, to whom
 ' their

' their Princes wou'd be proud to pay Adora-
' tion. But not to dissemble any thing, boun-
' tiful Nature has likewise provided us with
' other Faces and Shapes, I may add with ano-
' ther Set of Dress, Speech, and Behaviour,
' (not to mention Age) ordained to quench the
' cruel Flames, or to damp the inordinate De-
' sires, which the Young, the Handsome, and
' the Accomplished, might undesignedly kindle :
' So necessary is an Antidote to Love, where
' the Disease is so catching and so fatal.

' IN the Rattling Shops are lost more Hearts
' than Guineas, tho' *Cupid* be no where so liberal
' as in *England*. And the greatest Order that in
' such Cafes can be expected (however to me it
' be a Rout) is preserved at the Gaming Tables
' of every kind, where it is very diverting, for a
' Stander-by to observe the different Humours
' and Passions of both Sexes, which discover
' themselves with less Art and Reserve at Play,
' than on any other Occasion. There you'll
' see a Sparkish Young Fellow of Twenty-five,
' sitting right over a blooming Beauty of Eigh-
' teen, but so intent on Gain and the Dice, that
' he never exchanges a Word or a Look with
' her ; while a little lower you may smile at an
' Old Hunk that loves his Money as well as any
' in the City, yet losing it as fast as he Plays,
' by having his Eyes wholly off his Cards, and
' fix'd on a Green Girl of Thirteen, that cares
' as little for any Man there as he does for his
' Wife at home.

The

‘The Rude, the Sullen, the Noisy, and the
 ‘Affected, the Peevish, the Covetous, the Liti-
 ‘gious, and the Sharping, the Proud, the Prodi-
 ‘gal, the Impatient, and the Impertinent, be-
 ‘come visible Foils to the Well-bred, Prudent,
 ‘Modest, and Good-humoured, in the Eyes of
 ‘all impartial Beholders.

‘Our Doctors, instead of prescribing the Wa-
 ‘ters for the Vapours or the Spleen, order their
 ‘Patients to be assiduous at all Publick Meetings,
 ‘knowing that (if they be not themselves of
 ‘the Number) they’ll find abundant occasion to
 ‘laugh at Bankrupt Fortune-Hunters, Crazy or
 ‘superannuated Beaus, Married Coquets, In-
 ‘triguing Prudes, richly Drest Waiting-Maids,
 ‘and complimenting Footmen. But being con-
 ‘vinced (*Madam*) that you dislike a malicious In-
 ‘sinnuation, as much as you approve an instruct-
 ‘ing Hint, I abstain from all particular Cha-
 ‘racters; sparing even those who spare none
 ‘but themselves.

‘From this Account, it is plain we are not
 ‘quite in Heaven here, though we may justly
 ‘be said to be in Paradise; a Place co-habited
 ‘by Innocence and Guilt, by Folly and Fraud
 ‘from the beginning.

‘THE judicious *Eudoxa*, will naturally con-
 ‘clude, that such a Concourse of all Ranks of
 ‘People, must needs fill the Shops with most
 ‘Sorts of useful and substantial Wares, as well
 ‘as with finer Goods, Fancies, and Toys. The
 ‘Taverns, the Inns, and the Coffee-Houses

answer the Resort of the Place, and I must do our *Coffee-houses* the Justice to affirm, that for Social Virtue they are equalled by few, and exceeded by none, tho' I wish they may be imitated by all. A *Tory* does not stare and leer when a *Whig* comes in, nor a *Whig* look sour and whisper at the sight of a *Tory*; These Distinctions are laid by with the Winter-Suit at *London*, and a gayer easier Habit worn in the Country. Religion, that was designed to calm, does not ruffle Men's Tempers by Intelligible Wranglings; nor does our Moderation appear by rude Invectives against Persons we do not know, no more than our Charity does consist in fixing odious Characters on such as unwillingly dissent from us: But, if at any time we must needs deal in Extremes, then we prefer the quiet good-natured Hypocrite to the implacable turbulent Zealot of any Kind. In plain Terms, we are not so fond of any Set of Notions, as to think them more important than the Peace of Society.

AND about Six Pages after he goes on thus.

'You wou'd think your self in some enchanted Camp, to see the Peasants ride to every House with the choicest Fruits, Herbs, Roots, and Flowers, with all Sorts of Tame and Wild Fowl, with the rarest Fish and Venison, and with every kind of *Butcher's* Meat; among which *Bansted-down* Mutton is the most relishing Dainty.

G

'THUS

' THUS to see the fresh and artless Damfels
 ' of the Plain, either accompanied by their Amo-
 ' rous Swains, or aged Parents, striking their
 ' Bargains with the nice Court and City Ladies;
 ' who like Queens in a Tragedy, display all
 ' their Finery on Benches before their Doors,
 ' (where they hourly Censure, and are Censured)
 ' and to observe, how the Handsomest of each
 ' Degree equally Admire, Envy, and Cozen
 ' one another, is to me One of the chief Amuse-
 ' ments of the Place.

' THE Ladies who are too Lazy, or too
 ' Stately, but especially those that sit up late at
 ' Play, have their Provisions brought to their Bed-
 ' sides, where they conclude the Bargain; and then
 ' (perhaps after a Dish of *Chocolate*) take the other
 ' Nap, 'till what they have thus bought, is got
 ' ready for Dinner. Yet these Rounds of the
 ' *Higlers*, (which I would have by no means
 ' abolished) are not incompatible with a daily
 ' Market in the middle of the Town, not only
 ' as a further Entertainment for the Ladies, who
 ' love Occasions of coming together; but like-
 ' wise because a greater Choice of every Thing
 ' may be had there, and at all Hours, than
 ' possibly can be at their Doors: Nor would it
 ' be more Advantageous to the Meaner Sort for
 ' Cheapness, than Convenient for the Neighbour-
 ' ing Gentry on many Accounts. The New
 ' Fair during the *Easter Holy-Days*, and that on
 ' the Twenty Fourth of *July*, are as yet of lit-
 ' tle Moment, tho' capable in Time to be highly
 ' improved.

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improved. So much for the Town. Nor is my Pleasure diminished by Excursions out of it; for no where has Nature Indulged herself in grateful Variety, more than in this *Canton*. The Old Wells at Half a Mile's distance, which formerly used to be the Meeting-Place in the Forenoon, are not at present so much in Vogue; the Waters, they say, being found as good within the Village, and all Diversions in greater Perfection.

THE View from the fertile Common, in which they lie, is, as from every Elevation hereabouts, wonderfully Delightful; especially so distinct a Prospect of *London* at so great a Distance. But the Fortuitous Cure of a Leprous Shepherd (an Origin attributed to these in Common with other such Wells) appears even hence to be Fabulous, that they have never since had the like Effect; tho' otherwise, these Aluminous Waters are experienced to be very Beneficial in gently Cleansing the Body; in Cooling and Purifying the Blood: The Salt that is *Chymically* made of them, being Famous over all *Europe*. Yet the Cold Bath, lately erected on the Bottom of this pretended Miracle, meets with as little Encouragement, as the Old Story it self does with Belief; it not being the Fashion in this, as in some other Countries, to have all Salutiferous Waters under the Inspection of the Parson, or the Protection of a Saint.

THE Hunting of a P I G there every Monday Morning, when the only

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Knack consists in catching, and holding him up by the Tail, is infinitely more becoming the Boys that perform it, than the Spectators that employ them.

As for a Cold Bath, *EWELL*, wou'd by much be the properest Place ; since by reason of the Spring, the Water may not only be changed for every new Comer, but a Bason be likewise made, adapted for Swimming ; which, on such Occasions, was the Practice of the Antients.

BUT to shift our Scenes : From the Ring on the most eminent Part of the *Downs*, where I have often counted above Sixty Coaches on a *Sunday Evening* ; and whence the Painter must take his View when he represents *Epsom* ; you may distinctly see Nine or Ten Counties, in Whole, or in Part : Besides the Imperial City of *London*, very many considerable Towns, and an infinite number of Country Seats. You also see the Two Royal Palaces of *Windsor* and *Hampton-Court*. Within a Mile and an Half is the Place where that other Splendid Palace of *Non-Such* lately stood ; a fit Subject of Reflection for those, who are inclined to moralize on the Frailty, Uncertainty, and Vicissitude of all Things.

THE great Number of Gentlemen and Ladies that take the Air every Evening and Morning on Horse-Back ; and that Range either singly or in separate Companies over every Hill and Dale, is a most entertaining Object. You can

never

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' never miss of it on the fine Grounds of the
' new Orbicular Race, which may well be term-
' ed a rural *Cirque*. The Four Mile Course
' over the Warren-House to *Carshalton*, a Village
' abounding in delicious Springs, as much as we
' want them, seldom likewise fails to afford me
' this Pleasure ; having all the Way in my Eye
' (like some *Cynosure*) the rusted Trees of the
' Old Roman Fortifications, *Burrow*, properly Si-
' tuated to Crown the *Downs*, and once in my
' Opinion reigning over all the Groves ; I except
' not that of *Durdan's*, Famous for Love ; nor
' even *Ashted-Mount*, the Mansion of the Graces.
' *Sutton* and *Cbeam*, if not too low, are yet too
' dirty ; as *Walton* and *Hedly*, are too Windy in
' Winter, too Woody, and therefore too close
' in Summer.

' THIS I insert for your Information, noblest
' *Cberuscus*, to whom I am confident *Eudoxa*
' will Communicate this Letter ; since you have
' wisely resolved (as you do every Thing) to
' purchase a Summer Retreat, Cost what it will,
' somewhere in this Neighbourhood. But whe-
' ther you gently step over my Favourite Mea-
' dows, planted on all sides quite to *Woodcot*
' Seat, in whose long Grove I oftenest converse
' with my self ; Or that you Walk further on to
' *Ashted-House* and Park, the sweetest Spot of
' Ground in our *British* World ; or Ride still
' further to the Enchanting Prospect of *Box-hill*,
' that Temple of Nature, no where else to be
' equalled for affording so Surprizing and Mag-
' nificent an Idea both of Heaven and Earth :

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‘ Whether you lose your self in the Aged Yew-
 ‘ Groves of *Mickleham*, as the River *Moledos*
 ‘ hides it self in the *Swallows* beneath ; or that
 ‘ you had rather try your Patience in angling
 ‘ for Trouts about *Leather-head* ; whether you
 ‘ go to some *Cricket-Match*, and other Prizes
 ‘ of contending Villagers ; or chuse to breathe
 ‘ your Horse at a Race, and to follow a Pack of
 ‘ Hounds in the proper Season ; whether, I say,
 ‘ you delight in any, or every one of these,
 ‘ *Epsom* is the Place you must like before all o-
 ‘ thers. I that love the Country entirely, and
 ‘ to partake in some measure of most Diversions
 ‘ (except Gaming) have fixt my Residence here ;
 ‘ where I continue the whole Summer, and whi-
 ‘ ther I withdraw frequently in Winter.

‘ NOR are these I now nam’d my only Induce-
 ‘ ments ; for as I prefer Retirement to Solitude, and
 ‘ so wou’d have it in my Power to be Alone, or in
 ‘ Company, at Pleasure, I could be no where
 ‘ better fitted. Besides, every Body meeting his
 ‘ Acquaintance on the Bowling-Greens, in the
 ‘ Coffee-Houses, or on the *Downs* ; and few
 ‘ visiting others at their Houses, unless particu-
 ‘ larly invited ; or where Friendship has made
 ‘ all Things Common. ’Tis otherwise amongst
 ‘ themselves with Chance-Lodgers, who come
 ‘ purely for Diversion.

‘ IN Two or Three Hours Time I can be at
 ‘ *London*, whenever I will, at my Ease ; and if
 ‘ I have no Business in Town, I can receive all
 ‘ the Publick News as well, and almost as soon,

‘ at

at *Epsom* : Several Stage-Coaches going and returning every Day, with Town and Country Waggon more than once a Week ; not to mention the ordinary Post.

THERE are several very good Seats in and about *Epsom*. That of my Lord *Guilford* called *Durdans*, at the Extremity of the Village, was Built by the Earl of *Barclay* out of the Materials of *Non-such*, a Royal Palace in this Neighbourhood, built by *Henry* the VIIIth, and given by *K. Charles* the II^d to the Dutchess of *Cleveland*, who pulled it down and sold the Materials. This House of *Durdans* is built à la *Moderne* of Free-Stone ; the Front to the Garden, and that to the *Dorons* are very Noble, the Apartments within are also very regular, and in the Garden is the charmingest Grove imaginable, and famous for that Scene of Love between the Lord *Grey* and his Lady's Sister which you have read of. My Lord *Baltimore*'s Gardens are also fine ; the House is Old, but the Chappel is the neatest little thing in the World. Mr. *Ward*'s on *Clay-Hill* is a delicious Palace. Sir *James Bateman* hath also a delicate Seat at some Miles distance ; but what charmed me more than any thing hereabouts is the River of *Carshalton*, which environs Sir *William Scawen*'s Garden in a Square, and is full of Fish, and makes a pretty Cascade in going out. Within a Mile of *Epsom* is *Aysted*, belonging to Mr. *Fielding*, Brother to the Earl of *Denbigh*, which for its Situation,

G 4

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ation, Park, and Gardens, is inferior to nothing of its Bigness that I have seen in *England*.

IN Six Miles from *Epsom* in my way to *London* I arrived at *WIMBLETON*, the noble Seat of the Duke of *Leeds*, and in a Majestick Situation. You have three several beautiful Prospects from his Garden, and the Variety is the more diverting that it is in every Walk; you can turn no where but your View fixes on something new, The House is also answerable to the Grandeur of its great Master the Duke, who was Lord High Treasurer to K. *Charles* the 1st, and President of the Council to K. *William*, a very great Man, that lived to a good Old Age,

SIR Theodore Janssen, the French Banquier hath also a very delicious Seat in this Village, which insensibly leads you to the *Bowling-Green* of *PUTNER*, whither the Citizens resort twice a Week, and where I have seen pretty deep Play.

AT *PUTNER* which is a very large Village I crossed the *Thames* to *Fulham*, the Residence of the Bishops of *London*, and in my Way to *London* saw *Parson's-Green*, an old Seat of the Earl of *Peterborough*, (the present Ambassador to *Sicily*) with fine Gardens.

CHELSEA, full of Antient Seats, with its College for Wounded and Decayed Soldiers is a
a ve-

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a very Regular and Charming Building : It consists of a Body and two large Wings. In the *Area* which opens to the River is the Statue of King *Charles* the II^d, and from its Front on the other Side a large Yard for the Soldiers to walk in : Every Thing here is greatly disposed. It is not near so large as the Invalids at *Paris*, but much more Regular, and in its Refectory one sees as good Meat at Dinner as one can buy for Money ; very different from that at *Paris*. The little Rooms also where the Soldiers lye are kept very clean, and are in convenient Galleries like the Cloysters of Monks abroad.

FROM *Epsom* I made a small Excursion to *GUILFORD*, a neat Town, where there is a fine Course for Horse-Matches, and there you have the cleanest Linnen in the Inns, that ever I met with.

SURREY gives Title of Earl to the Duke of *Norfolk*, who hath neither Estate nor Interest in the County. Its present Lord Lieutenant is the Duke of *Northumberland*, Constable of *Windsor-Castle*. It sends Fourteen Members to Parliament, viz. Two for the County, Two for the Burroughs of *Southwark*, *Bletchingly*, *Rye-gate*, *Guilford*, *Gatton* and *Haslemere*.

LET-



LETTER VIII.

CAMBRIDGE, October 17th, 1713.

S I R,

THE Season of the Year for taking up my Winter Quarters at *London* being not yet come, I resolv'd to take the Diversions of the Meeting at *New-market*, and to see this University, as also the famous *Sturbridge-Fair*, while the Weather was yet good to travel; and this is to convince you that Time lies not Idle on my Hands.

I THEREFORE took Post-Horses and went from *London* to *Epping*, a delicate Village in a Royal Forest, reaching from thence near to that great Metropolis, where is a fine Seat of the Lord *North* and *Grey*, whom we knew one of the Lieutenants-Generals of the *English* Army in *Flanders*, and which was left to him by the late Earl of *Tankerville*.

THE next Stage was *Bishop-Stortford*, a Place remarkable for its good School and pleasant Inns, where I changed Horses for *Audley-End*, an Antient Royal Palace, by much the largest in *England*: but King *James* the First giving its keeping

keeping to the Earl of *Suffolk*, and the Sovereign Princes since not liking the Situation, it is now most of it pulled down, there remaining only one large Court, which however makes a Noble Palace to the present Earl that resides there, who is a worthy Nobleman and a true Patriot; he is Deputy Great-Mareschal of *England*: The Duke of *Norfolk*, who is the Hereditary-Mareschal, by reason of his Religion, being incapable to execute that Office.

THIS Palace lies in a Bottom, hath little or no Prospect, but is in a fine Country for Sport; from whence in Four Hours over a delicious Plain I arrived at *New-market*.

NEW-MARKET consists but of one Street, in which the Sovereign and many of the Nobility have their Hunting, or rather Raceing-Houses. And indeed, when one beholds the vast Company of Horsemen on the Plain at a Match, one would be astonished to consider how so small a Place could contain such a vast Number of People.

ALL Mankind are here upon an equal Level, from the Duke to the Country-Peasant; no Body wears Swords, but without distinction are cloathed suitable to the Humour and Design of the Place for Horse-Sports. And a Country Grazier lays his Money at a Horse-Match with the same freedom as the greatest Lord of them all; for here is no Ceremony, but every Body strives to out-Jocky (as the Phrase is) one another.

IT

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IT is a great pleasure to rise in a Morning, and see the Horses aired, or led over the Grounds, but a much greater to see the Joy and Attention in every Face on the Starting of the Matches, which are every Day during the Season, of one Sort or another ; and great Wagers are laid on the several Horses besides the Prizes run for, which are seldom under Four Hundred Pounds, and often above a Thousand.

HOWEVER, there are Sharpers at this as well as at other Diversions of *England* ; a Groom's Riding on the wrong Side of the Post, or his riding *Crimp*, or People's crossing the Horses Way in their Course, makes a Stranger risk deep when he lays his Money, except he can be let into the Secret, which you can scarce believe he ever is.

NEVER was such a splendid Show of fine Horses at any Review of an Army made by the *French King*, or any other Prince in *Christendom*, as here in these Plains on a Match-day. And indeed one ought to be Personally here to have a true Taste of the Pleasure of a Horse-Match : No Description I am able to make can truly represent to you an Idea of it. The swift Running of Horses may to you seem insipid, as the Races we saw at *Bologna in Italy* were, where the Horses run through the Streets without Riders ; but here there is something so very Noble in the whole Pursuit of the Courses, that it animates even a By-Spectator, or Stranger to share in their Pleasure.

AFTER

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AFTER the Matches are over, there is publick Play in most of the Nobilities Houses, as well as at the Two Coffee-Houses, which lasts most Part of the Night; and thus you are every Day diverted during the whole Season, which continues all this Month, and is renewed again in *April*.

BUT, my Friend, you must know that the chiefeft Sharpers at *Tunbridge* and *Epsom*, are always here likewise; and therefore there is no safe Play without knowing ones Company very well; for you will here see Fellows in the Habits of Grooms, that Play for as much Money as a Lord, and perhaps know more of the Matter. In short, *Sharp* is the Word here; and it's a common Proverb all over *England*, *A New-Market Bite*.

THE Horse-Matches are intermixed with Cock-Matches, another mighty Diversion in *England*, in which they exceed all the World.

A COCK-PIT is the very Model of an *Amphi-Theatre* of the Antients; the Cocks fight in the *Area* as the Beasts did formerly amongst the *Romans*; and round the Circle above, sit the Spectators in their several Rows. It's wonderful to see the Courage of these little Creatures, who always hold fighting on 'till one of them drops, and dies on the Spot.

I WAS at several of these Matches, and never saw a Cock run away; however, I must own it to be a Remnant of the Barbarous Customs of this Island, and too Cruel for my Entertainment.

T H E R E

THERE is always a continued Noise amongst the Spectators, in laying Wagers upon every Blow each Cock gives; who, by the way, I must tell you, wear *Steel Spurs*, (called, I think, *Gafflets*) for their surer Execution. And this Noise runs fluctuating backwards and forwards during each Battel, which is a great Amusement; and, I believe, abundance of People get Money by taking, and laying Odds on each Stroke; and find their Account in the end of the Battel; but these are People that must nicely understand it.

IF an *Italian*, a *German*, or a *Frenchman*, should by chance come into these Cock-Pits, without knowing before-hand what is meant by this Clamour, he would certainly conclude the Assembly to be all mad, by their continued Outcries of Six to Four, Five to One, Ten Pounds to a Crown, which is always repeated here; and with great Earnestness; every Spectator taking part with his Favourite-Cock, as if it were a Party-Cause.

FROM *Newmarket*, in Three Hours riding, I arriv'd at this Famous University, at the Time that *STURBRIDGE-FAIR* was kept in its Neighbourhood; and to which that of *BURY*, mentioned in my First Letter succeeds.

THIS *FAIR* does not come up to the former in Beauties, nor the Fineness of Company, but it much surpasses it in Cattle and other Merchandizes.

HERE

HERE are Hackney-Coaches as at other Places of Pleasure; Booths for Strolers to act Comedies in; Whores, Musick-Houfes, and a mixt Company of all Sorts and Conditions.

THE Town of *CAMBRIDGE*, did not a little surprize me, considering that abroad, where there are Universities, the Towns are generally the neatest and best built, of any in the several Kingdoms and Provinces where such Societies for Learning are.

LEYDEN and *UTRECHT* in the *Low-Countries* (though Towns of little or no Trade) are by reason of their Colleges, the Beautifullest in the Provinces; and so they are in *Germany*, *France*, *Spain*, and *Italy*; but the Town of *Cambridge* is a dirty Place, ill built, and in a very indifferent Situation; however, the Largeness of the University, with the Beauty of its Colleges, which are Sixteen in number, makes much amends for the Indifference of the Town.

THE University and Town are Two distinct Corporations, and each of them send Two Members to Parliament: They also have their separate Privileges, but the Town seems to be subordinate to the University; for their Mayor, every Year when he is elected, takes an Oath to observe and conserve the Privileges of the University.

THE Colleges abroad, especially those in the *Low-Countries*, resemble the Free-Schools in *England*; but the Colleges here, are like the *Monasteries*

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Monasteries abroad, wherein the Scholars lodge, and are entertain'd as the *Monks* and *Fryars* are there, and with as much Regularity : For the Scholars are seldom allow'd to go into the Town ; nor are they, when they do, ever to stay out of their respective Colleges after Nine at Night : For there are Officers called *Proctors*, chosen every Year, whose Business is to Inspect the Conduct of the Scholars. They have Power to go into, and search all publick Houses after the Regulated Stated Hours ; and to punish, without Distinction, whomsoever they find transgressing this standing Rule of the University.

THIS keeps the Scholars intent upon their Studies, and is much more commendable than abroad, where the Youth live at Large in the Cities, and are consequently more distracted ; though this last may be a Reason why these Cities are so fine where the Scholars are permitted to come abroad, and why this is such a sorry Place here.

THIS University is govern'd by a *Chancellor*, who is always a Peer of the Realm : The present *Chancellor* is his Grace the Duke of *Somerset*.

By a *High-Steward*, who at present is the Earl of *Manchester*.

AND by a *Vice-Chancellor*, who is chosen out of the Heads of the several Colleges every Year.

EVERY College hath its Master, or particular Governor, independent on each other.

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THERE are also Professors of Divinity, of Law, Physick, and Mathematicks; of Hebrew, Arabick, and Greek; as also of Astronomy and Experimental Philosophy, Casuists, each separate, and independant on any particular College, with a publick Register; as also Logical, Mathematical, and Rhetorick Lecturers chose every Year.

THE Professors of Divinity, Law, Physick, and Mathematicks, are obliged to read to the Students in their severall Professions Four Days a Week, besides the Tasks of the Ordinary Professors in each College; so that Young Gentlemen are obliged to all imaginable Attention here; nay, are mulct'd, and punished if they do not attend; whereas abroad they are left to their Liberty, and often the *Billard-Table*, or a *Ball*, diverts them when they shou'd be at their Lectures.

THE Gradual Advancement of Students is another Beauty of this University: At *Leyden*, *Utrecht*, or *Padua*, you may Commence Master of Arts, or Doctor, in any Profession for a Sum of Money without Studying at all; but here a Youth must Study above Three Years, before he can be a *Batchellor of Arts*; nay, must publickly Oppugne for several Days, and answer to all Matters proposed to him by any *Master of Arts*, or others; and after he is admitted *Batchellor*, must continue his Studies Three or Four Years more, before he can arrive to be *Master of Arts*; and many Years more

H

before

before he can be admitted *Doctor* in any Profession of Law, Divinity, Physick, &c.

THIS, Sir, is a very good Reason why the best Physicians, and the best Divines in the World come from *England*; for no Nation hath ever kept up to the Rules and Primitive Institutions of their Colleges so much as these.

I COULD easily enlarge upon this Head, but as that is Foreign to the Business of a Traveller, I will only here give you the Description of the several Colleges, and so answer the Design of my coming hither.

I SHALL begin with *KING'S-COLLEGE*, founded by that Poor Unhappy Prince, *Henry* the VIth; who, however, deserved a much better Fate, than the way he Died

THE Conspicuous Chappel of this College, like *St. Peter's* at *Rome*, strikes a Traveller with Awe and venerable Admiration, as he approaches the Town.

KING'S-COLLEGE CHAPPEL, is the Longest and Largest Room without Pillars to support its Roof, that, perhaps, is in the World; and its Choir, adorned by King *Henry* the VIIIth, with the finest carved Work in Wood, that ever I saw any where; and the Glass-Painting in the Windows, makes it very Beautiful and Graceful. The Whole Building, Roof and all, is of Free-Stone; and the Crown, the Crest, and other Ensigns of Honour, of the House

House of *Lancaster*, cut curiously in Stone in several Places, are no small Ornament to the Whole: In short, this Chappel would even be a Curiosity at *Rome*.

I SAW no Hall in *Italy* of any wideness without Pillars, but the Great Hall at *Padua*; but there is no manner of Comparison between that Hall and this Chappel; for the Roof of that Hall is of Wood, supported by Trees that run across the Top of the Wall; but the Roof of this is one continued Vault of Free-Stone, and the Stones prodigiously large, supported only by Buttresses without.

THE Good King designed that the College should be answerable to the Chappel, but his Misfortunes coming upon him so thick, and the House of *York* ascending the Throne, it was of necessity laid aside. However, his *Will* shews what a Glorious Thing he designed this College to be; of which, for its Curiosity in its Kind, I send you the following Abstract; hoping that after Peace and Plenty, some good Prince may put the Plan in Execution, and then it will be the Noblest College in the World.

The Words of the WILL are thus, viz.

As touching the Dimentions of the Church of my said College, of our *Lady* and Saint *Nicholas* of *Cambridge*, I have devised and appointed, that the same Church shall contain in Length 288 Foot of *Assise*, without any Isles; and all of the Wideness of Forty Foot. And the Length of the same Church from the West End, unto the *Altars* at the *Choir* Door, shall contain 120 Foot; and from the *Provost's* Stall unto the *Greece*, called *Gradus Chori*, 90 Foot, for 36 Stalls on either side of the same *Choir*, answering to LXX Fellows, and 10 *Priests* *Conduits*, which must be *de Primâ Formâ*. And from the said Stalls unto the East End of the said Church, 22 Foot of *Assise*: Also a *Reredosse* bearing the *Rood-loft*, departing the *Choir*, and the Body of the Church, containing in Length Forty Foot, and in Breadth Fourteen Foot.

The Walls of the same Church to be in Heighth Ninety Foot Imbattelled, Vaulted, and Chareroofed, sufficiently Butteraced; and every Butterace fined with Finals.

And in the *East* End of the same Church, shall be a Window of Nine Days; and betwixt every Butterace a Window of Five Days; and betwixt every of the same Butteraces in the Body of the Church, on both sides of the same Church, a Closet, with an *Altar* therein, containing in Length 20 Foot, and in Breadth 10 Foot, vaulted and finished under the Soil of the Isle-Windows.

dows. And the Pavement of the Church to be enhanced 4 Foot above the Ground without; and the Heighth of the Pavement of the *Choir*, 1 Foot and a Half above the Pavement of the Church.

And the Pavement of the *Altar*, Three Foot above that.

And on the *North* Side of the *Choir* a *Vestry*, containing in Length Fifty Foot, and in Breadth Twenty Two Foot, departed into Two Houses beneath, and Two Houses above; which shall contain in Heighth, Twenty Two Foot in all, with an Entry from the *Choir* vaulted.

And at the *West* End of the Church, a Cloyster-Square. The *East* Pane containing in Length, 175 Foot; and the *West* Pane as much.

The *North* Pane 200 Foot, and the *South* Pane as much; of the which, the *Deambulatory* 13 Foot wide; and in Heighth, 20 Foot, to the *Corbill-Table*, with clear Stories, and Butteraces with Finals, vaulted and embattelled. And the Ground thereof, 4 Foot lower than the Church Ground.

And in the Middle of the *West* Pane of the Cloyster, a strong Tower, Square, containing Twenty Four Foot within the Walls. And in the Heighth, One Hundred and Twenty Foot, to the *Corbill-Table*. And Four small Turrets over that, fined with Pinacles; and a Door into the said Cloyster inward, but outward none.

And as touching the Dimensions of the Housing of the aforesaid College, I have devised, and appointed in the *South* Side of the said

Church, a *Quadrant*, closing to both Ends of the same Church; the *East* Pane whereof shall contain Two Hundred and Thirty Foot in Length; and in Breadth, within the Walls, Two and Twenty Foot: In some Panes middle, a Tower for a *Gate-House*, containing in Length, Thirty Foot; and in Breadth, Two and Twenty Foot; and in Height, Forty Foot, with Three Chambers over the Gate, every one over the other.

And on either Side of the same Gate, Four Chambers, every one containing in Length, Five and Twenty Foot; and in Breadth, Two and Twenty Foot: And over every of these Chambers, Two Chambers above of the same measure, or more, with Two Towers outward, and Two Towers inward.

The *South* Pane shall contain in Length 238 Foot; and in Breadth, 22 Foot within, in which shall be 7 Chambers, every one containing in Length, 29 Foot; and in Breadth, 22 Foot; with a Chamber, Parcel of the *Provost's* Lodging, containing in Length, 35 Foot; and with a Chamber in the *East* Corner of the same Pane, containing in Length, 25 Foot; and in Breadth, 32 Foot. And over every of all these Chambers, Two Chambers, and with Five Towers outward, and Three Towers inward. The *West* Pane shall contain in Length, 230 Foot; and in Breadth within, 24 Foot; in which at the End towards the Church, shall be a *Library*, containing in Length, 110 Foot; and in Breadth,

24 Foot. And under it a large House for *Reading* and *Disputations*, containing in Length 40 Foot; and Two Chambers under the same *Library*, each containing 29 Foot in Length, and in Breadth 24 Foot. And over the said *Library*, a House of the same Largeness, for divers the *Wardrobe-Stuff* of the said College.

In the other End of the same Pane, a *Hall*, containing in Length 100 Foot, upon a Vault of 12 Foot in Heighth, ordained for the *Cellar* and *Buttrie*: And the Breadth of the *Hall*, 36 Foot, on every side thereof a Bay-Window.

And in the nether End of the same *Hall*, towards the middle of the same Pane, a *Pantrie* and *Buttrie*, every of them in Length, 20 Foot, and in Breath, 17 Foot; and over that, Two Chambers for Officers.

And at the nether End of the *Hall*, towards the *West* a goodly *Kitchen*. And the same Pane shall have inward Two Towers, ordained for the Ways into the *Hall* and *Library*: And in every Corner of the said *Quadrant*, shall be Two Corner Towers, one inward, and one outward, more than the Towers above rehearsed. And at the upper End of the *Hall*, the *Provost's* Lodging; that is to wit, more than the Chamber for him above specified, a *Parlour* on the Ground, containing 34 Foot in Length, and 22 Foot in Breadth; and Two Chambers above of the same Quantity. And *Westward* closing thereto a *Kitchen* for him; a *Larder-House*, *Stables*, and other necessary Housings and Grounds. And

Westward beyond these Houses, and the said *Kitchen* ordained for the *Hall*, a *Bake-House*, a *Brew-House*, and other Houses of Office; between which there is left a Ground Square of 80 Foot in every Pane, for Wood and such Stuff. And in the middle of the said large *Quadrant*, shall be a *Conduit* goodly devised for the Ease of the same College.

And I WILL, that the Edification proceed in large Form of my said College, Clean and Substantial, setting apart Superfluity of too great Curious Works of Entail and Busie Moulding.

And I have devised, and appointed, that the Precinct of my said College, as well on both Sides of the Garden, from the College to the Water, as in all other Places of the same Precinct, be enclosed with a Substantial Wall, of the Heighth of 14 Foot; with a large Tower at the Principal Entry against the middle of the *East* Pane out of the *High-Street*. And in the same Tower a large Gate; and another Tower in the middle of the *West* End of the New-Bridge. And the same Wall to be crested, embattelled and fortified with Towers, as many as shall be thought convenient thereunto.

And I Will that my said College be edified of the most Substantial and best Abiding Stuff, of Stone, Lead, Glass, and Iron, that may best be had and provided thereto.

CLARE-HALL, is a Fine New *Dorick* Building all of Free-Stone, very Commodious, and

and very Beautiful, built after the Manner of the *Jesuits* Colleges abroad, only the Lodgings for Students are much better disposed; and its Situation for Field-Exercise is very Advantageous: But the Noblest of all the Colleges, is *Trinity-College*, founded by *Henry the VIIIth*.

IT consists of Two Spacious Squares, or Courts, with a Noble *Library-Room* at the Bottom, lately built of Free-Stone, and supported by a Row of Pillars; which, as the *Present State of England* very justly observes, is the most Magnificent Building of its Kind in the Three Kingdoms: Nor, indeed, have I seen a neater Room any where abroad, nor Books more Beautifully disposed.

THE Chappel is very Fine, as are those of most of the Colleges; of each of which, if I should give you particular Descriptions, it would swell my Letter into a Volume.

I SHALL therefore only add, that they endeavour to Out-vie one another in their *Libraries*, filled with Antient and Modern Books and Manuscripts: That of *University-College* alone, contains more than 14000 printed Books. That of *Bennet's*, that of *St. John's*, and that of *Emanuel*, are extremely well-stock'd; and the Scholars have the Liberty of borrowing what Books they please out of them; a Thing very rarely, if ever, practised in any University abroad.

THIS Town also gives Title of Duke to the *Electoral-Prince of Hannover*, Grandson to the Princess *Sophia*,

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LETTER IX.

LONDON, January 1st, 1714.

SIR,

BEGIN this Letter with wishing you a *Happy New-Year*, though the Year does not begin in this Kingdom till the 25th Day of *March*. I have asked several Learned Men the Reason why they do here differ from all the Kingdoms of *Christendom* in beginning their Year; but could never have any tolerable Account given, except, that the 25th of *March* being the Day of the Blessed Virgin's Conception, they Date the *Ann* of our Lord from thence.

FROM *Cambridge* I took a fine Seat of the Earl of *Radnor's* in my Way, and visited that Worthy Old Gentleman Sir *Robert Cotton* at his Villa of *Hatley St. George*, a Seat worthy of so Great and Good a Man. He hath a noble Collection of *Original Paintings*; and his House and Gardens every where answer the Grandeur of the first Quality. He is a Branch of the Antient *Bruce Cottons*, Lineally descended from King

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King *Robert the Bruce*, King of *Scotland*, by the Marriage of whose Daughter the *Stewarts* came to the Crown.

FROM *Hatley* I passed through a pretty Market Town called *ROYSTON*, and so to *HATFIELD*, that Antient and Noble Seat of *Cecil Earl of Salisbury*, which was built by the Great *Burleigh*, Prime Minister to *Queen Elizabeth*; whose Royal Apartment and its Furniture are still Extant in this Palace. I took the large Market Town of *Ware* in my Road, where is that famous large Bed which they say will hold Twenty Couple, and at the Holidays returned hither.

I AM Lodged in the Street called *Pall-mall*, the ordinary Residence of all Strangers, because of its Vicinity to the *Queen's Palace*, the *Park*, the *Parliament-House*, the *Theatres*, and the *Chocolate* and *Coffee-Houses*, where the best Company frequents. If you would know our manner of Living, 'tis thus; we rise by Nine, and those that frequent great Mens Levees find Entertainment at them till Eleven, or as in *Holland* go to *Tea-Tables*; about Twelve the *Beau-Monde* assembles in several *Coffee* or *Chocolate-Houses*: The best of which are the *Cocoa-Tree* and *White's Chocolate-Houses*, *St. James's*, the *Smirna*, *Mrs Rochford's*, and the *British Coffee-Houses*, and all these so near one another, that in less than an Hour you see the Company of them all. We are carryed to these Places in *Chairs* (or *Sedans*) which are here very cheap,
a Guinea

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a Guinea a Week, or a Shilling per Hour, and your Chair-men serve you for Porters to run on Errands as your *Gondaliers* do at *Venice*.

IF it is fine Weather we take a turn in the *Park* till Two, when we go to Dinner ; and if it be dirty you are entertained at *Picket* or *Bas-set* at *White's*, or you may talk Politicks at the *Smyrna* and *St. James's*. I must not forget to tell you, that the Parties have their different Places, where however a Stranger is always well received ; but a *Whig* will no more go to the *Cocoa-Tree* or *Osinda's*, than a *Tory* will be seen at the Coffee-House of *St. James's*.

THE *Scots* go generally to the *British*, and a Mixture of all Sorts to the *Smyrna*. There are other little Coffee-Houses much frequented in this Neighbourhood, *Young-Man's* for Officers, *Old-Man's* for Stock-Jobbers, *Pay-Masters* and *Courtiers*, and *Little Man's* for Sharpers. I never was so confounded in my Life as when I entred into this last : I saw Two or Three Tables full at *Faro*, heard the Box and Dice rattling in the Room above Stairs, and was surrounded by a Sett of sharp Faces, that I was afraid would have devoured me with their Eyes. I was glad to drop Two or Three Half Crowns at *Faro* to get off with a clear Skin, and was over-joyed I was so got rid of them.

AT Two we generally go to Dinner : Ordinaries are not so common here as abroad, yet the *French* have set up Two or Three pretty good ones for the conveniency of *Foreigners* in
Suffolk-

Suffolk-Street, where one is tolerably well served; but the general way here is to make a Party at the *Coffee-House* to go Dine at the *Tavern*, where we sit till six that we go to the Play, except you are invited to the Table of some Great Man, which Strangers are always courted to, and nobly entertained.

I KNOW Abundance of *French*, that by keeping a Pocket-List of Tables, live so almost all the Year round, and yet never appear at the same Place above once in a Fortnight; by looking into their Pocket Book in the Morning they fix their Place of Dining, as on *Monday* with my Lord ———, and so for Two Weeks, Fourteen Lords, Foreign Ministers, or Men of Quality; and so they run their Round all the Year long, without notice being taken of them.

THERE are Two very Noble *Theatres* here, and a Third for a *Comedy* which is rebuilding. That for *Opera's* at the End of the *Pall-Mall*, or *Hay-Market*, is the finest I ever saw, and where we are entertained in *Italian Musick* generally twice a Week; that for *History, Tragedy, and Comedy*, is in *Covent-Garden*, (a *Piazza* I shall describe to you in the Sequel of this Letter) and the other that's rebuilding is by *Lincolns-Inn-Fields*, at a small distance from the other.

THE *Theatres* here differ from those abroad; in that those at *Venice, Paris, Bruffels, Genoa*, and other Parts, you know are composed of Rows of small *Shut-Boxes*, Three or Four Stories

ries in a Semi-Circle with a *Parterre* below ; whereas here, the *Parterre* (commonly called the *Pit*) contains the Gentlemen on Benches ; and on the first Row of *Boxes* sit all the Ladies of Quality ; in the Second the Citizens Wives and Daughters ; and in the Third the Common People and Footmen ; so that between the Acts you are as much diverted by viewing the Beauties of the Audience, as while they act with the Subject of the Play ; and the Whole is illuminated to the greatest Advantage : Whereas abroad, the Stage being only illuminated, and the *Lodge* or *Boxes* close, you lose the Pleasure of seeing the Company ; and indeed the *English* have reason in this, for no Nation in the World can shew such an Assembly of shining Beauties as here.

THE *English* affect more the *Italian* than the *French* Musick ; and their own Compositions are between the *Gravity* of the first and the *Levity* of the other. They have had several great Masters of their own : *Henry Purcell's* Works in that Kind are esteemed beyond *Lully's* every where ; and they have now a good many very Eminent Masters ; but the Taste of the Town being at this Day all *Italian*, it is a great discouragement to them.

No Nation represents History so naturally, so much to the *Life*, and so close to *Truth* as the *English* ; they have most of the Occurrences of their own History, and all those of the *Roman* Empire nobly Acted. One *Shakespear* who lived

lived in the last Century, laid down a Masterly Foundation for this in his excellent Plays; and Mr. *Addison* hath improved that Taste by his admirable *Cato*.

THEIR Comedies are designed to lash the growing Follies in every Age; and scarce a *Fool* or a *Coxcomb* appears in Town, but his Folly is represented. And most of their *Comedians*, in Imitation of *Molliere*, have taken that Province; in which Mr. *Cibber*, an extream good Player, hath succeeded very well.

THEY seldom degenerate into *Farce* as the *Italians*, nor do they confine their *Tragedies* to Rhyme and Whining as the *French*. In short, if you would see the greatest Actions of past Ages played over again, and the present Follies of Mankind exposed, you must come here.

AFTER the Play, the best Company generally go to *Tom's* and *Will's Coffee-Houses* near adjoining, where there is playing at *Picket*, and the best of Conversation till Midnight. Here you will see *Blue* and *Green Ribbons* and *Stars*, sitting familiarly, and talking with the same freedom, as if they had left their Quality and Degrees of Distance at Home; and a Stranger tastes with Pleasure the universal Liberty of Speech of the *English* Nation. Or if you like rather the Company of Ladies, there are *Assemblies* at most People of Qualities Houses. And in all the *Coffee-Houses* you have not only the *Foreign* Prints, but several *English* ones with the *Foreign* Occurrences, besides Papers of Morality and Party-Disputes. MY

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MY Bills of Exchange oblige me now and then to take a Turn to the *Royal-Exchange*, in a Hackney-Coach, to meet my Merchant. These Coaches are very necessary Conveniencies, not to be met with any where abroad : for you know that at *Paris, Brussels, Rome, or Vienna*, you must either hire a Coach by the Day, or take it at least by the Hour ; but here you have Coaches at the Corner of every Street, which for a Shilling will carry you any where within a reasonable Distance, and for Two from one end of the City to the other. There are Seven Hundred of them Licensed by Act of Parliament, and carry their Number on their Coaches ; so that if you should chance to leave any Thing in a Coach, and know but the Number of it, you know presently where to lay your Claim to it ; and be you never so late at a Friend's House in any Place of this great City, your Friend by taking the Number of the Coach, secures your Safety home.

THE *Royal-Exchange* is the Resort of all the Trading Part of this City *Foreign and Domestick*, from Half an Hour after One till near Three in the Afternoon : But the better Sort generally meet in *Exchange-Alley* a little before at Three Celebrated *Coffee-Houses*, called *Gara-way's, Robin's, and Jonathan's*. In the First the People of Quality, who have Business in the City, and the most considerable and Wealthy Citizens frequent. In the Second, the *Foreign Banquiers*, and often even *Foreign Ministers*.

An

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And in the Third the Buyers and Sellers of *Stock*.

WHEN I entred into this last, I was afraid I had got into *Little-Man's Coffee-House* again, for busy Faces run about here as there, with the same sharp intent Looks, with this Difference only, that here it is selling of *Bank-Stock*, *East-India*, *South-Sea*, and *Lottery-Tickets*, and there it is all *Cards* and *Dice*.

YOU will see Fellows, in shabby Cloaths, Selling Ten or Twelve Thousand Pounds in *Stock*, though perhaps he may'nt be worth at the same time Ten Shillings, and with as much Zeal as if he were a Director, which they call Selling a *Bear's-Skin*; and these Men find Bubbles enough to get Bread by it, as the others do by *Gaming*; and some few of them manage it so as to get pretty large Estates.

NEAR this *Exchange* are Two very good *French Eating-Houses*, the One at the Sign of *Pontack*, a President of the Parliament of *Bourdeaux*, from whose Name the best *French Claretts* are called so, and where you may bespeak a Dinner from Four or Five Shillings a Head, to a Guinea, or what Sum you please. The other is *Kivat's*, where there is a constant Ordinary as abroad, for all Comers without Distinction, and at a very reasonable Price.

I AM told, that while Policies were allow'd to be made on taking of Towns, and gaining of Battels, during the last War, this *Exchange-Alley* was the sharpest Place in the World; but

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the Abuse of Intelligence, Sham-Letters spread upon the *Exchange*, and Private Letters coming before the Mails, made that Practice so notorious, that the Queen and Parliament wisely thought fit to put a Stop to it, by a seasonable provisional Act against it, as they have endeavoured to do by another Act against excessive Gaming, being both equally looked on as a Cheat, and Imposition upon the well-meaning Subject: However, some great Men have not disdained to be deeply concerned in both, and have got good Estates; for *Tricking* is not yet here reckon'd so despiseable a Quality as abroad, when it's cleanly done; therefore, my Friend, when you come here, play not in *England*, nor venture to lay Wagers, except you know your Company very well, or are sure of your Fact.

LONDON and *WESTMINSTER*, antiently two different Cities, at a good Miles distance from each other, and still under separate independant Governments, are now by their Buildings become contiguous, and in a manner united into One, and compose this great *Metropolis*.

WHEN the Family of the *Stuarts* came to the Throne, the Space that then separated these Cities was filled with several Noble Palaces, and their delicate Gardens along the Side of the River *Thames*, viz. that of the Earl of *Essex*, that of the Duke of *Norfolk*, *Somerfet-House*, built by the Duke of *Somerfet*, Uncle, and Prote

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For to *Edward* the Sixth, the *Savoy*, *Worcester-House*, *Exeter-House*, *Bedford-House*, *Salisbury-House*, *York-house*, *Northumberland-House*, and *White-Hall*; but now most of these splendid Palaces are pulled down, and with their Gardens built into spacious Streets and Tenements, make the beautifullest and most frequented Part of the Town; and now unites them.

ESSEX-HOUSE is turned into a very fine Street:

NORFOLK-HOUSE makes Four very gallant ones; and the Vault of that Palace is still extant, which going under Two Stories crosses the whole Middle Street, and makes one of the Curiosities of the Town, and gives a Stranger an Idea of the Grandeur of the Palace, of which that was a Part of the Foundation.

SOMERSET-HOUSE came to the Crown after the beheading of its first Founder, and hath been ever since a Royal Palace. King *Charles* the II^d added a Magnificent Apartment of Free-Stone, fronting the Garden and the River, and it's still well kept as a Dowry-House for ever for the Queens Dowagers of *Great-Britain*. The Duke *D' Aumont*, late Ambassador from *France*, after the burning of his House, had the Honour to be lodged here, by a particular Bounty of the Queen; and it was here that he kept his

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Summer *Carnavals* and Masquerades, so little known in *England* before his Time.

THE *SAVOR* is called so from its being built by *Peter* Earl of *Savoy* and *Richmond*, and given by his Niece *Eleanor*, Queen to *Henry* the Third, to her Son the Duke of *Lancaster*; in which Family it always continued till the Union of the *Red-Rose* and *White*, the two Houses of *Tork* and *Lancaster*, by the Marriage of *Henry* the 7th, and hath been in the Crown ever since, but never inhabited as a Royal Palace : It had separate Privileges independant on the Crown ; and its Neighbourhood to this Day is called the *Dutchy-Liberty*, where no Body could be Arrested but by a *Lancaster-Writ* ; but that is now all over, except within the Walls of the Palace, which retains only the Privileges of other Royal Palaces.

IT is a very large Square-Building. The *French* Protestants have obtained the use of one of the Churches in its Square, and the rest is governed by a Master and Four Divines, who have a good Allowance in the manner of Colleges. Several Apartments below serve for Lodgings to the Foot-Guards, and those above are much out of order.

WORCESTER-HOUSE, Built by a Natural Branch of the House of *Lancaster*, was the Seat of that Noble Family for many Ages ; but is now pulled down and built into Tenements

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ments, which are called *Beaufort*-Buildings; the Title of Duke of that Royal Branch, and makes a fine Street.

EXETER-HOUSE, built by the Eldest Son of the Famous *Cecil*, Lord *Burleigh*, prime Minister of State to Queen *Elizabeth*, now makes an *Exchange*, and a handsome Court of Tenements.

SALISBURY-HOUSE, built by the Second Son of the same Great Man; both the Sons bearing the Title of Earls, of these Denominations of *Exeter* and *Salisbury*, is also pulled down, and makes the Handsom *Cecil*-Street.

BEDFORD-HOUSE, opposite on the Hill side, and which was the Antient Seat of the *Russels*, Earls, and now Dukes of *Bedford*, being also pulled down, and with its Gardens, turned into Famous Tenements, makes Four very Noble Streets,

YORK-HOUSE, the Antient Seat of the Arch-Bishops of that Name and Province, was purchased by *Villars* Duke of *Buckingham*, and pulled down, and makes Six Noble Streets; in one of which, the present *Lord-Treasurer* keeps his Court.

NORTHUMBERLAND-HOUSE, is still entire, and is the Famous Palace of the present Duke of *Somerset*, who married the Heirefs.

It's a Noble Square-Court, with a Garden running down to the River side; the Front to the Street is Princely, and the Apartments answer his Grandeur, as in his other Palaces I have mentioned in my former Letters.

WHITEHALL, which joins to *Westminster*, and was built by the Famous Cardinal *Woolsey* in the Reign of *Henry the VIIIth*, and (by that Prelate's Disgrace) fell into the Prince's Hand, and hath been the Royal Seat of the Kings and Queens ever since; is of a vast Extent, and was without doubt the Largest Palace in the World, 'till its consumption by Fire in the Reign of the late King *William*. The *Seraglio* at *Constantinople*, is not composed of more Variety than this Palace was; but there remains now little worth mentioning besides the *Banqueting-House*, built by King *James* the First, of the *Scotch* Race, which is one of the prettiest Pieces of Architecture in *Europe*; and even at *Rome* would be a great Curiosity. The Out-side is composed of the Four Orders, and its Inside all finely Painted by that Great Master *Sir Peter Paul Reubens*; That Prince designed a Square after the Form of this Building, but his Death, and his Son's, King *Charles* the 1st's Misfortunes, prevented the finishing of that Design.

THIS Hall is now converted into a Chappel, 'till the Rebuilding of the Whole may return it to its former Use, which was to give Audience to *Foreign* Ministers, and other Publick Occasions of State,

T H E R E

THERE are also in this Space which divides the Two Cities, Eight Noble Squares, where the Nobility and the best of the Gentry have their *Palaces* and *Hofstells*; besides several oblong Streets with Magnificent Edifices.

THAT of St. *JAMES'S-SQUARE*, is the Principal, where the Duke of *Ormond* hath a Noble Palace; the Duke of *Roxborough* another; the Duke of *Norfolk* a Third, at present Inhabited by the *Venetian* Ambassador. The Earl of *Pembroke*; the Earl of *Portland*; the Earl of *Strafford*; the Lord *Cornwallis*; the Duke of *Kent*; the Lord *Offulston*; the Lord *Albournham*; the Lord *Hervey*; have each their fine Palaces in this Square; the Countess of *Northampton*; Sir *John Germain*, and the Lady *Gouvernnett*, have also theirs; all worthy the Curiosity of a Stranger; especially the Duke of *Kent's* Gallery, and the Earl of *Portland's* Apartments.

THERE are Five open spacious Streets, by which you enter into this Square; and a little above it is a most stately Church for the Service of God, and the Devotion of its Noble Inhabitants.

LEICESTER-SQUARE, so called from *Leicester-House*, belonging to the present Earl of that Name, takes up near one quarter of the Square, and is a very Magnificent Palace. It was here where Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy* lodged

when he was in *England*; and in the rest of the Square are lodged the Lord *Sommers*, and abundance of the First Quality: The middle is planted with Trees, and railed round, which gives an agreeable Aspect to the Houses.

GOLDEN-SQUARE, is not so large as the other Two, but finely built; planted likewise with Trees in the middle, and rail'd in: Here the Viscount *Bollingbrook*, General *Hill*, and many other Great People of Quality have their *Hofstells*, or, (as they call them in *Italy*) Palaces: And behind this Square at a little distance off, is *Great-Marlborough-Street*, which, though not a Square, surpasses any Thing that is called a Street, in the Magnificence of its Buildings and Gardens, and inhabited all by prime Quality.

SOHO-SQUARE is larger, and more regular than the Two last. The Unfortunate Duke of *Monmouth*, who was beheaded, began it by a noble Palace, which was never finished; but the Earl of *Carlisle*, the Lords *Foley*, *Faulconbridge* (now Sir *Thomas Frankland*) Lord *Mansel*; the Earls of *Gainsborough*, *Darwentwater* and *Barclay*; with many other Persons of the first Quality, have their *Hofstells* here. In the middle of this Square, is erected a Stone-Statue of King *Charles the Second*, on a fine Pedestal of the same; the *Area* is planted with Trees made into handsome Walks, and railed round,

round, and may contain near Four Acres of Ground. There are Five handsome Streets which open into this Square.

COVENT-GARDEN-SQUARE, is a noble *Piazza*, and resembles much that of *Leghorn*, a fine Church making one Quarter of the Square; the Three others nobly Built, but the Pillars larger than those of *Leghorn*. The Earl of *Orford*, with some other Sea-Admirals, have their Residence here; and in the Square is kept one of the best Markets for Greens, Flowers, and Fruit, in *England*. The *Area* of this Square contains about Three Acres, and Five fine Streets open into it.

BLOOMSBURY-SQUARE, lies high, and in an open free Air. The Palace of the Lord *Russel* who was beheaded, (which with its Gardens, is a stately Dwelling) makes One Quarter of the Square; and the other Three are regularly built into fine *Hostells*; the *Area* contains full Four Acres, and the Houses all Palaces, abundance of Quality live in them; the Earls of *Northampton* and *Chesterfield*; the Lord *Castleton*; and amongst others, the celebrated Mr *Steel*, Publisher and Author of most of those Papers which have entertained *Europe* for some Years. Four fine Streets open into this Square.

RED-LION-SQUARE, is smaller than the former, but the *Area* is above Two Acres, prettily

prettily planted with Trees ; and behind it lie those fine New-Buildings called *Ormond-Street*, and Square, one of the pleasantest Quarters near the City, and where the Duke D' *Amount* had the Misfortune of having his House burnt ; but it is now rebuilt with Free-Stone, and is a fine Palace belonging to the Lord *Powis*.

LINCOLNS-INN-SQUARE, is by much the Largest here, and I believe in *Europe* ; it's larger than the *Piazza de Spagna* at *Rome*, and much better built, yet not so fine as *Saint Mark's* at *Venice*, though the *Area* contains full Ten Acres of Ground ; there are Five Openings into this Square.

THE Duke of *Newcastle's* noble Palace here, was built by the Lord *Powis* in the Reign of King *James* the 1st, and was the general Residence of the Lords *Chancellors* of the Kingdom, in the Reign of King *William*. Sir *Thomas Powis*, a celebrated Lawyer, hath another fine one adjoyning ; the *Portugal* Ambassador's, the Earl of *Lindsey*, the Earl of *Cardigan*, and the present Lord *Chancellor*, with many other of the Nobility, have very charming Palaces here. And that of *Collonel Child*, for its Architecture and Paintings, deserves a particular Attention. Here is also a Play-House re-building, and a fine Garden at the End of the Square, in common for every Body to walk.

BESIDES these Squares, there are an Infinity of little Courts paved with Free-Stone in this Space,

Space between the Two Cities, in which one is conveniently lodged free from the Noise of the great Streets, which is a Conveniency one rarely meets with abroad. And these Courts are disposed into small pretty Tenements, where the *French Protestants* generally chuse their Habitations.

I AM sure you will be surprized to find, that this Space of Ground (which in the last Age was only Fields) strow'd with Seats and Gardens, contains more Squares than any City of *Europe*; *Rome* hath not so many, nor so large, and *Paris* but Four that can be called Squares.

WHAT must you then expect of the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, when I come to give you their Description? But before I enter upon that I must tell you, that besides those Squares, the Prime Nobility have Sumptuous and Noble Palaces separate from them in this space.

MONTAGUE-HOUSE, adjoining to *Bloomsbury-Square*, is a most magnificent Palace, built by the late Duke of *Montague*. You enter into the Court, after the manner of the *Hostels* at *Paris* by a *Port-Cocher*. The Offices are on each Side; the Court is very spacious; and the Stair-Case, the Painting, and the disposition of the Apartments as Noble as can be imagined; a fine Garden and *Terrass* behind, and a noble Prospect to the adjacent Country. The *Fresco* Painting on the Stair-Case, and the *Cupola* Room, with

with the great Collection of Original Paintings in the several Apartments, are well worth the Curiosity of a Stranger, as also the Statues in the Garden.

DEVONSHIRE-HOUSE, commonly called *Berkley-house*, because it was from that Lord that the late Duke of *Devonshire* bought it, is a noble Palace in a fine situation; its Front looks into *St. James's Park*; and backwards one hath a beautiful *Vista* to *Hampstead* and the adjacent Country.

ITS Court as you enter is spacious, with the Offices on each Side, as at *Montague-house*, but separated from the Body of the Palace by circular Galleries, elevated on Columns of the *Corinthian* Order. The Stair-Case, the Apartments and Gardens, are all suitable to the Grandeur of the late Duke who finished it, one of the greatest Men of his Time; a Prince of Mighty Munificence and Magnificence; had a great Taste in Architecture, Painting and Furniture, from whence you may conclude this a Noble Palace.

BURLINGTON-HOUSE, belonging to the Earl of *Burlington*, and situated not far from this of *Devonshire*, is also a very large Noble Palace; its Court-Yard very spacious, with the Offices on each side as the former, and his Gardens very large and fine, with a good Collection of Pictures. The present Earl is young, but a very

very hopeful Nobleman, and hath a good Taste in Painting and Gardening.

JOINING to this is the Palace of the Earl of *Sunderland*, late *Secretary of State*, where you will see the finest Private Library in *Europe*, and which surpasses many of the Publick ones ; it's in a Noble Room built on purpose, and the Books handsomely disposed. His Lordship hath also a Noble Collection of Original Paintings, but you shall hear more of that next Summer when I go to *Northamptonshire*, and see his Noble Seat of *Altbrop*.

BUCKINGHAM-HOUSE, a Palace built by the present Duke of *Buckingham*, President of the Council is one of the great Beauties of *London*, both by reason of its Situation and its Building.

IT is situated at the *West End* of *St. James's Park* fronting the *Mall*, and the great Walk ; and behind it is a fine Garden, a Noble *Terrass*, (from whence as well as from the Apartments you have a most delicious Prospect) and a little Park with a pretty Canal.

HIS Court-Yard which fronts the Park is spacious, the Offices are on each Side divided from the Palace by two Arching Galleries, as at *Devonshire-House* ; and on the Gate of the Court (which is of Iron) are finely cut out the Coronet and Cypher of his Grace, with the Ensigns of the Noble Order of the Garter ; and
in

in the Middle of the Court is a Round Basin of Water lined with Free-Stone, with the Figures of *Neptune* and the Tridents in a Water-work. His Stair-Case is large, and nobly Painted; and in the Hall, before you ascend the Stairs, is a very fine Statue of *Cain* slaying of *Abel* in Marble.

THE Apartments are indeed very Noble, the Furniture Rich, and many very good Pictures. The Top of the Palace is Flat, on which one hath a full View of *London* and *Westminster*, and the adjacent Country: And the Four Figures of *Mercury*, *Secrecy*, *Equity*, and *Liberty*, Front the Park; and those of the *Four Seasons* the Gardens. His Grace hath also put Inscriptions on the Four Parts of his Palace, a Thing I never saw abroad, but on your little Pleasure-Houses in *Holland*, where they delight in merry Mottoes: However, the Inscriptions on the Two Fronts are very well adapted; for on the Front to the Park, which is as delicious a Situation as can be imagined, the Inscription is, *Sic siti letantur lares*; The Household-Gods delight in such a Situation: And Fronting the Garden, *Rus in Urbe*, The Country within a City; which may be properly said, for from that Garden you see nothing but an open Country, and an uninterrupted View, without seeing any Part of the City, because the Palace interrupts that Prospect from the Garden.

MARL

MARLBOROUGH-HOUSE, the Palace of the Duke of *Marlborough*, who hath made the greatest Figure of *Europe* in our Age, is every way answerable to the Grandeur of its Great Master.

ITS Situation is more confined than that of the Duke of *Buckingham*; but the Body of the House much nobler, more compact, and the Apartments better disposed. It is situated at the *West-End* of the Queen's Garden on the Park-side, and fronts the Park, but hath no other Prospect but thither.

ITS Court is very Spacious and finely Paved; the Offices are large, and on each Side as you enter; the Stairs mounting to the Gate are very Noble; and in the *Vestibule* as you enter are finely Painted the Battels of *Hocksted* and *Blenheim*, with the taking *Mareschal Tallard* Prisoner, where the Figures of Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy*, the Duke of *Marlborough*, and Mr. *Cadogan*, are finely done to the Life, as also that of *Mareschal Tallard*. There are abundance of fine Pictures in this Palace, but I will defer saying any thing further of them till next Summer, that I get to his glorious Palace of *Blenheim* near *Oxford*, from whence you may expect a diverting Letter from me.

AT the other End of this Garden, which runs along the Skirts of the Park, is the Palace of the Duke of *Shrewsbury*, Lord-Chamberlain,
and

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and at present *Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland*. And in the Garden, *Mr. Boyle* who was *Secretary of State*, and is now *Keeper of this Garden*, hath a fine Apartment. These, Sir, are the most conspicuous Palaces that lye between *London* and *Westminster*, not but in the several Streets there are abundance that deserve that Name. That of the *Duke of Schomberg* in *Pall-mall* is very Noble, with a fine Prospect to the Park ; as also that of the *Earl of Wharton* in *Dover-Street* is a most sumptuous Building, finely finished and furnished. That of the *Lord Dover* in the same is very Noble. The *Earl Paulet*, *Lord High-Steward of the Household*, hath a most magnificent Palace at the End of *Bond-Street*, with a fine Prospect to the adjacent Country : and indeed all *Bond-Street* are Palaces. The *Earls of Orkney* and *Portmore*, and many others of the Nobility having sumptuous Lodgings all round that Quarter ; but as particular Descriptions of each would tire you, and indeed swell my Letter with Superfluity, I think I have said enough to confirm you in the great *Idea* that *Prince Eugene* gave of the *English Nation*, after his return to *Germany* from thence.

HER Majesty's Palace of *St. James's*, where she resides when she is in Town, is not so sumptuous as one would imagine the Court of so great a Princess to be in so large a City ; the Reason is, because *Whitehall*, which was the usual Residence

sidence, being burnt in the time of an expensive War, the Government have not had Leisure to rebuild that, or enlarge this, which consists of two Squares or Courts, and a Bass-Court. You go to the great Stairs through a long *Portico* supported by a Row of Pillars the whole Length of the Court. The Royal Apartments compose the Second Court ; and the Rooms of State are very Majestick and Large. It fronts the Park as *Marlborough-House* does, which is situated hard by it. My next, Sir, shall give you an Account of *Westminster*, with the Publick Offices in and about it, and then I will proceed to the City of *London* ; it being impossible to give you further Account of the Counties till Summer.

Adieu.



LETTER X.

WESTMINSTER, Feb. 6th, 1713-14.

S I R,



BEGIN this Letter of the Description of this City on the Queen's *Birth-Day*, a Day observed with the utmost Splendor at this Court. The Nobility and Gentry of both Sexes make their new Equipages on this solemn Occasion, striving to outvie one another in Magnificence, new Coaches and Liveries : and the Noble-Men, Gentlemen and Ladies, wait upon Her Majesty in the greatest Sumptuousness that can be expressed. No Court (nay, not that of *France*) ever saw the Ladies so bedeck'd with Jewels as these of *England* are on this Day, to congratulate Her Majesty, and to wish her to live many Years, which in the Morning is attended with a Song and Confort of Musick made for the Occasion ; and at Night there is always a Ball ; and the whole City rejoycing with Illuminations and Bonfires : Even Her present Majesty's Indisposition hath not hindred the usual Expences of the Day, though the Company are by it deprived of the occasion of shewing to Her Majesty, their Zeal

of exceeding one another in the Richness of their Drefs.

WHEN the Queen of *Great-Britain* appears, she is usher'd in by the Officers of the *White-Staffs*; who are the Lord *High-Treasurer*, the *Great Master*, or *Steward* of the Household, the *Comptroller*, and the *Treasurer* of the Household; and she is led by the Lord *Great Chamberlain* of the Household, who all carry *White-Staffs* in their Hands, as the Badges or Marks of their Office. The Lord *Chamberlain* also wears a *Golden-Key* tyed with a *Blue Ribband* above his Pocket; and the *Vice-Chamberlain* (who officiates in his absence) carries also the *Key*, but not the *Staff*.

HER Majesty is furrounded by her Band of *Gentlemen-Pensioners* within the Apartments, (which is a Guard Instituted by *Henry* the VIIth for *State*) who are all Cloathed in *Scarlet Laced-Coats*, and carry in their Hands *Battle* or *Poll-Axes* covered with *Velvet*, and fringed with *Scarlet* and *Gold*. The Design of this Band was at first for fitting young Gentlemen of Quality for the greatest Employments abroad: They are forty in Number, and the Duke of *Beaufort* is the present Captain of them.

WHEN Her Majesty goes out of the Apartments, she is attended with another Guard of *Halberdiers*, like the *Swiss-Guards* abroad, called the *Yeomen* of the Guard, of whom the present Lord *Paget*, whose Father we knew in his Return from his Embassy from *Turkey* and *Vienna*,

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is Captain. Her Majesty is also preceded by the Lord-Chancellor, carrying his Purse, and Four Serjeants at Arms, carrying each a large Mace of Silver Gilt, with the Crown and other Ensigns of Honour a-Top of it.

WHEN Her Majesty goes to the *Parliament-House*, or to Council, out of her Palace, she is always attended by these *Yeomen* of the Guards; and when she goes to take the Air in *High-Park*, or out of Town, by Her Master of the Horse, Her Equerries, who officiate in his absence, or in the Vacancy of that Office; and by Her *Horse-Guards*, the Captains of which take their Turns in waiting, and are always next to her Person when she goes any where. They are Four in Number: The present are, the Duke of *Ormond*, the Earl of *Arran*, the Lord *Ashburnham*, and the Duke of *Argyle*.

No Prince in the World lives in that State and Grandeur like the Kings and Queens of *England*. At *Versailles*, when the *French King* is at Table, the Call is *à boire pour le Roy*, and Servants of an Inferior Degree bring him his Wine; but here Majesty is served upon the Knee by the People of the First Quality, who always taste the Liquor before they present it. You may remember that we have seen together the late Emperor *Leopold* with his Empress, the King of the *Romans*, and this present Emperor then Arch-Duke *Charles*, at Table, served like private People; but here there is something more august, so Royal, at the Queen's Table, the

it strikes an awful Reverence on a *By-Stander*. Nay, the late King of *Prussia*, who aimed at Glory more than any Prince of our Time, never came up to this Antient Grandeur of the *English* Nation; yet, in my own private Opinion, it favours too much of Superstition, being a Respect that Religion allows only to the King of Kings.

I MUST add, that on this Glorious Occasion, the Ladies of the Court, constantly attending on Her Majesty's Person, make a considerable Part of the Beauty of the Day, and they are composed of the Chief of the Nobility.

THE Dutchess of *Somerset*, Groom of the Stole, and consequently First Lady of the Bed-Chamber, wears a *Golden-Key*, as the Lord Chamberlain does.

THE Dutchess of *Ormond*; the Dutchess of *Devonshire*; the Countess of *Burlington*, Mother to the present Earl; the Countess of *Rocheſter*; the Countess of *Scarborough*; the Countess of *Abingdon*; the Countess of *Cardigan*, and the Lady *Fretcheville*, are of the Number; and the Six Maids of Honour, Young and Beautiful, that make up the Train, will give you a just Idea of a Queen of *Great-Britain*, whenever She appears in Publick.

THE City of *WESTMINSTER*, by its Government, resembles more an *University* than a City; for here are no Mayors and Aldermen, as in other Cities and Corporations, though this

sends Two Members to Parliament, as they do: But the *Dean* and *Chapter* of the *Abbey Church* of *Westminster* have the chief Government; which shews that the City originally depended entirely on the *Monks* of that *Abbey*.

As an *University* chuses a *Chancellor* for the *Secular* Government, so does this *Chapter* a *High-Steward*, who is always of the Prime Nobility; and the present is the Duke of *Ormond*, Captain-General of her Majesty's Forces; it is an Employment for Life; and he hath under him an *Under-Steward*, and *High-Bailiff*, but depending all on the *Dean* and *Chapter*, in whom both the *Ecclesiastical* and *Civil* Jurisdiction is vested, as says the present *Dean*, Lord Bishop of *Rochester*.

HERE is the Original Chief Palace of the Kings of *England*, though none of them have made their Residence in it, since the Reign of *Henry* the VIIIth, when a great Part of it was burnt. One may guess by what remains (which Resembles a little City) what it was when Entire; however, though the Family Royal do no longer Reside in this Palace, yet all the Courts of *Parliament* and *Justice*, are still kept here: You enter this Palace through a *Great Hall* full Three Hundred Foot long, and One Hundred broad, without any Pillars to support its Roof, which is of *Irish Oak*, and buttressed at the Top very artfully.

ON your left as you enter this *Hall*, a large pair of Stairs leads you up to the Office of *Exchequer*,

chequer, where all the publick Money of the Nation is received in, and paid out.

And on the right, another pair of Stairs from the *Hall*, leads you to the Court where the *Barons* of the *Exchequer* sit on all Causes relating to the *Revenue*.

NEAR the middle of the *Hall*, on the right as you enter, sits a Court called the Court of *Common-Pleas* between Man and Man.

AND at the upper End of the *Hall*, upon a broad Ascent of Steps, where was usually the Throne of the Sovereign, are kept the Court of *Chancery* on the right, and the *Queen's-Bench* on the left; the First is for Causes of *Equity*, and the latter for Criminal Causes, and Pleas of the Crown.

It's in this *Hall* where the Kings and Queens of *England* Feast their Nobility at their Coronation; a Ceremony, I am told, the most Magnificent in the World.

On the left, at the End of this *Hall*, a Stone pair of Stairs carry you up to the Apartments above, which are very large. The first Room, called the *Court of Requests*, serves for the Attendance of such as have Business in either House of *Parliament*; as you go in, up some Steps higher, is the *House of Commons*, formerly a Chappel belong to the Palace; but now the most compact Room to hold Six Hundred Gentlemen, that can be imagined; and smaller Apartments round it for the Conveniency of the Speaker and other Members.

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NEXT to the *Court of Requests* is a large Room, called the *Painted Chamber*, where Conferences are held between the Two Houses, as there may be Occasion; and where there is a Gallery of Communication for the *Lower-House* to come up without being crowded.

AT the furthestmost Room of this Antient Pile on the right, through a Passage, you are led into the *House of Lords*, a Room little less than that of the *Commons*, and hung with fine Old Tapisstry, containing the History of the *Spanish Armado*, in the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*.

IN this Palace also, between the Two Houses of *Lords* and *Commons*, and behind the *Painted-Chamber*, is kept that celebrated *Library of Antient Manuscripts*, collected by Forty Years Travelling and Expence by that Famous Antiquary Sir *Robert Cotton*; and left by him, by Act of Parliament, in his Family, for the Use of the Publick.

THEY consist of about One Thousand Great Volumes, placed in Fourteen Wainscot Presses, each mark'd with a *Busto* of a *Cesar*; and the other Two with a *Cleopatra* and *Faustina*.

THE Collection being very Curious, deserves to be visited by all Strangers; but especially, that of Genealogies, by the Gentlemen of the *Scotish Nation*. Several Great Curiosities of that Nation, brought by *Edward* the First from thence, when he was conquering that Kingdom, being treasured up here,

BEHIND the OFFICE of the *Exchequer*, towards the River, are very handsome Apartments for the Chief Officers belonging to it.

THE Lord *Hallifax*, present Auditor, hath a Noble Apartment adjoining to, and under the *House of Commons*, finely fitted up, and furnished with a Noble Collection of *Original Paintings*, and a handsome Garden opening to the River.

EACH of the Four *Tellers*, which are very profitable and honourable Employments, have here their several Apartments. The present Four, are the Earl of *Denbigh*, the Lord *Mansel*, the Lord *Hay* of *Duplin*, and Mr. *Roberts*, Brother to the Earl of *Radnor*.

ALL these Apartments being within this spacious Palace, will give you a just Idea of its Antient Grandeur.

ADJOYNING to this Palace is the *ABBAY*, where reside the *Dean* and *Chapter* of *Westminster*. Their *Cathedral*, where the Kings and Queens of *England* are always Crowned; and is also the General Repository of the Royal, and Noble Ashes of these Kingdoms; is a Reverend Noble *Gothick* Pile; and at its *East End*, King *Henry* the VIIth join'd a Sumptuous Chappel, whose Outside in Statues and Carving, surpasses any Thing of this Kind I ever saw in *Italy*. But Time, and the Softness of the Stone, hath much effaced its Beauty,

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THE Inside of this *Chappel* contains so many Royal Monuments of Marble, that it would make a Volume of it self to give the Particulars. I will therefore only add, that if *St. Dennis*, near *Paris*, the Repository of the Royal Families of *France*, excels this in Gold and Silver, this does far exceed it in Sculpture and Monuments.

POOR *Don Pedro de Ronquillo*, who served *Spain* so long and so faithfully, as Ambassador to this Court, is like to have the Honour of lying unburied amongst the *English* Kings for ever; his Corps being arrested by his Creditors, and kept in this *Chappel* above Ground, 'till his Relations redeem it; which can hardly be expected from a *Spaniard*; not but they have the Honour, if they had the Capacity of doing so just an Action.

YOU ascend from the *Church* into this *Chappel* by Twelve Stately Steps, and enter it through Three very Spacious *Portalls* of solid Brass, adorned with the Badges of the Houses of *York* and *Lancaster*; and below, on each Side, are abundance of little *Chappels*, fill'd with sumptuous Monuments of the Antient Nobility of *England*; the Whole well worthy the Curiosity of a Stranger.

IN the Body of the *Church* are several Modern Monuments of such as have distinguish'd themselves in the Service of their Country; amongst whom, our Acquaintance Mr. *Stepney*, who

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who gained so much Reputation by his Negotiations at *Vienna*, and the other Courts of *Germany*, and when he was Plenipotentiary at *Brussels*, deserves a particular regard, as does that of Admiral *Shovel*, who was cast away in returning from the *Mediterranean*.

THE Dutchess of *Marlborough* hath also generously erected a handsome Monument in Memory of Colonel *Bringsfield*, Gentleman of Horse to the Duke; who had his Head shot off by a Cannon-Ball, as he was remounting his Master at the Battel of *Ramelies*: And just by it, is erected another for that Brave Gentleman Captain *Twisden*, *Aid de Camp* to the Duke of *Argyle*, and killed near his Grace, as he was leading on the *English* at the Battel near *Mons*.


I MUST not forget Monsieur *St. Evremont*, who lies buried amongst the Poets, and whose *Busto* very much resembles him, as the Inscription does Justice to his Merit; amongst these last, are the Monuments of the Antient *Chaucer*; and the Modern *Cowley*, *Dryden*, and *Shadwell*.

FROM this Palace Westward, on the River Side, is a fine Street like a Key, with very handsome Buildings; and at the End a Palace belonging to the Earl of *Peterborough*; and between the Palace of *Westminster* and *Whitehall* Eastward.

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Eastward, are several Beautiful Courts, paved with Free-Stone ; and opening to the River by Stairs to take Water.

ON the other Side of *Westminster*, are also many spacious Streets, with Views into the Park, and a Square called *Queen's-Square*, well built, with Noble *Hofstells*, and Her present Majesty's Statue at the End of it, which also opens into the Park by a Curious *Iron-Gate*.

THIS Square hath a *Chappel* for the Convenience of its Inhabitants, as hath *Duke-Street* another in the Park Side ; and besides the Cathedral,  *St. Margarets*, for the Honourable House of Commons, and the General Convenience of the other Inhabitants of the City.

LETTER



LETTER XI.

Whitehall, Feb. 10th, 1714.

SIR,

DO NOT be surprized that my Letters, since I took up my Winter Quarters in *Pall-mall*, are directed from several Places in and about this Great City; the Reason is to keep a Method without Confusion, which the *Chaos* of this little World of *London* requires.

MY last was from *Westminster*, and I give you this from the Remains of *Whitehall* adjacent, where the Great Offices of State, on which all the *Less* depend, are kept; and what I design, shall be your next Entertainment.

THE OFFICE of the *Treasury*, where the *Lord High-Treasurer* dispatches his Orders to the several Offices of the Revenue. The Offices of the Secretaries of State; that of the *Privy-Council*, and the *Council of Trade*, are kept at the *Cock-Pit*, a Part of the Antient Palace of *Whitehall*; and so called, because Cardinal

dinal *Wolsey*, when he built this Palace, had here his *Tennis-Court*, a Pit for fighting of Cocks, and Apartments for other Sports, as the *Tilt-Yard*, which is also adjoining. But King *Charles* the II^d turned the whole into noble Buildings, and made it a Part of his Palace. The present Queen having lodged there when she was only Princess *ANNE*.

NEAR to this *Cock-pit*, over the Gate that enters the Park where the *Horse-Guards* do Duty, is the Room for the Council of *General-Officers*, and the Office for Payment of *Guards* and *Garisons*; and opposite to that towards the River, in the other Remains of the Palace of *White-hall*, are kept the *War-Office*, the *Jewel-Office*, the *Groom-Porter's*, and the *Signet*.

THE Two Secretaries of State have *Europe* divided between them in two different Provinces, the One called the *South*, which includes *France*, *Spain*, *Italy*, *Portugal* and *Ireland*; and the Other the *North* and the rest of *Europe*.

SCOTLAND is a Province by it self, and that Kingdom hath a noble Palace fronting the *Privy-Garden* adjoining to *Westminster*, which hath been much embellished by the Earl of *Mar*, the present Secretary for that Part of *Great-Britain*. These Officers send Directions, and receive Advices from all the Ministers abroad in their several Provinces; and direct every Thing at Home that relates to the State; and they are the Presenters to Her Majesty of all *Memorials* from *Foreign Ministers*.

THE

THE *Privy-Council-Office* is governed by Four Clerks, who keep a Register of every Thing that's transacted in the *Privy-Council*, give out all *Proclamations* and *Orders*, and read all *Petitions* and other Papers before the Queen in Council.

THE *Council of Trade Office* inspect all Trade in general, but more particularly takes Care of our *Plantations* in *America*, which is made part of their Province.

THE *Council of General Officers* hold *Court-Martials*, inspect the *Cloathing* of the Army, and are the proper Judges of *Appeals* between Subaltern Officers and their Colonels.

THE *Secretary of War* from the *War-Office* gives out all *Commissions*, and sends all *Directions* to the Armies both Abroad and at Home.

IN the *Jewel-Office* is kept all the Jewels and Plate belonging to the Crown.

AT the *Groom-porter's* is permitted the only unlimited Play at *Dice* in *England*; other *Gaming Ordinaries* being subject to Limitations by Act of Parliament.

AND in the *Signet-Office* all *Warrants* and other *Signatures* of the Queen must be passed, before they can go to the *Privy* or *Great Seal*.

ADJOYNING to these on the Side of the Park is also the *Admiralty-Office*, where the Lord *High-Admiral*, or *Lords-Commissioners* for executing that High-Office sit. It's a noble Building new built by King *William*; the Apartments are finely disposed for the Commodity of
the

the *Board*, the *Secretary*, and *Clerks*, and it hath a Garden which opens into the *Park*.

IT'S from this Office that all *Commissions* for Captains of Men of War, and other Officers relating to the Sea, are taken out: They also give Directions to the Office of the *Navy*, and *Victualling*, who keep their Offices at the Navigable End of the City.

AND what adds to the Beauty as well as Conveniency of these Offices, is, that they all open into *St. James's-Park*, where those that are obliged to attend, have the conveniency of walking. This Park is composed of fine Walks in a Triangle. The Duke of *Buckingham's* Palace making the Point on the Extremity; and a large Canal in the Middle; the Queen's Palace, and that of the Duke of *Marlborough*, are on the side fronting the fine *Mall*; and the Opposite is *Queen's-Square*, and the Streets of *Westminster*, and on the *East* the Offices above-mentioned.

To enlarge on the *Admiralty*, I must tell you, that there have been few that have born the Office of Lord *High-Admiral* since the Duke of *York*, (afterward K. *James*) in his Brother *Charles* the 1st's Reign, though sometimes Captain-Generals have been appointed for the Executive Part at Sea. The present Earl of *Pembroke*, however executed this Office with great Honour towards the End of King *William's* Reign, as did his Royal Highness the Prince of *Denmark* Consort to the present Queen during his Life in her Reign.

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THE present Lords for executing this High Office, are the Earl of *Strafford*, late Plenipotentiary at *Utrecht*, Sir *John Leake*, a famous Admiral, Sir *James Wisbart*, bred up all his Life to the Sea, Sir *William Drake* and Mr. *Aisleby*, considerable Members of the Honourable *House of Commons*; and Mr. *Clerk*, who was Secretary to the Prince, and a Gentleman consummate in Affairs.

AMONGST these great Offices I must not omit the *Post-Office*, though it stands in the Heart of the City, two Miles distant from these, and situated there near the *Royal-Exchange*, for the Conveniency of Merchants and Trade.

I CAN say with great Justice, that it's the finest of its kind in *Europe*. You know that at *Amsterdam*, the *Hague*, and *Venice*, every particular Country have their several *Comptoirs* for Letters, and these at great Distances from each other: But this *General-Office* is a large Building in an Oblong-Square; the Court is paved for Merchants to walk in while they attend the giving out their Letters, to which you enter by a very noble Gate.

ON the Right of this Court is the *Board*, where the Governors sit to determine all Matters relating to the vast Extent of Letters all over *Europe*, the Plantations in *America*, and *Britain* and *Ireland*. On the Left is a spacious Room for receiving and giving out all *Foreign Letters*; and fronting the Gate, a longer Room,
L where

where the Clerks of every Road in *England*, and their *Letter-Sorters* under them, receive and distribute all the *In-land-Letters*; and in the *Bass-Court* is an Office for the *Letter-Carriers*, who have each their separate Quarters or Stations, and with great Conveniency convey the whole in few Hours all round this great City.

SIR *Thomas Frankland*, by his great Application, Integrity, and Twenty Years Experience, hath brought this Office to a greater Perfection than any of its Kind in *Europe*. You know the general Abuses in *France* and *Flanders*, the Farms in *Holland* and *Germany*, and how the jangling of Offices often creates a Stop to the Intercourse; but here every thing is so regularly disposed, that Villages at the greatest Distances from the great Roads are truly served. The present Governors-General are Sir *Thomas Frankland*, and Sir *John Evelyn*, Baronets, Gentlemen of that Integrity, that *Whig* and *Tory*, Gentlemen and Merchants, Soldiers and Sailors, equally praise their Administration.

THE Rest of this Office consists of a Comptroller to each Office, *Foreign* and *Domestick*; a Treasurer, an Accomptant-General, a Secretary with his Clerks; Clerks for Foreign Letters, who meddle with none else; and Clerks for every particular great Road in *England*. And indeed the whole looks more like a well regulated Corporation than an Office.

DEPENDING on this OFFICE, there is another for the City of *London*, and within the Compass of a Stage round it, by which one can

send

send Pacquets every Hour of the Day within that Space for a Penny ; and the Disposition of this Penny-Post is so good, that you find in every Street in and about this prodigious City, Places for taking in your Letters.

ONE would think that this Conveniency should abate the Number of Porters, whose Business is properly to carry Messages ; but notwithstanding the Penny-Post, I believe there are more Porters in and about *London*, than in all the Cities of *Europe* put together ; at the Corners of every Street, and the Door of every Tavern, these Fellows Plye ; and notwithstanding their Number, they do generally make a good Livelihood of it.

NOT far from the General-Post-Office, *viz.* in the *Old-Jewry*, the Centre of the City, is kept the OFFICE of *Excise*, govern'd by Seven Commissioners, and all the Offices for *Treasurer, Secretary, Accomptant, Auditor, Comptroller*, with a Multitude of other inferior Offices, all regularly disposed, and kept in excellent Order.

THIS OFFICE is the most Extensive of any in *England* ; for there is hardly a Parish without an *Excise*-Officer, which are said to be Two Thousand in Number ; amongst whom One Hundred and Fifty *Supervisors*, or *Commanders*. These Officers, being seldom Natives of the Parishes where they serve, are of Use to the Ministry in other Matters, besides gauging of Beer.

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I MUST say this of the *Excise* in general, that, I believe, there is no Instance in any other Nation whatsoever, of so great a Revenue, its being raised with so much Ease to the Subject, at so small an Expence to the Publick, and with so little Danger to the Liberties of the People.

WHAT an Army of Officers does the *French* King Employ only for his Duty on *Salt* in the several Provinces; and to prevent its being carried from one Province to another? What an Army does he make use of in his Customs? And yet the *Excise* here (which is collected with all the Ease in the World) amounts to near Thirty Millions of *French-Livres*, while there they are every Week hanging, confiscating, and tearing the Poor to pieces.

EVEN in *Holland* the *Pacht*, or *Excise* on Liquors, is raised with great Rigor, Contentions, and Trouble; but here (as I told you before) without murmur: An Act of Parliament is the Standard of a Subject's Obedience here; and as every Subject knows the Act long before it is put in Execution, it's submitted to with Pleasure for your Gross Farmers, which exact with Rigour, are not known, nor felt here, as abroad.

THE *Custom-House*, is another Great OFFICE governed by Seven Commissioners, who give Directions, not only to the Proper Officers in the Port of *London*, but to all the Out-Ports of the Kingdom of *England*.

THIS OFFICE is a Noble Pile of Building, built on the River Side below the Bridge; to whose Key Ships of the greatest Burthen come up. The necessary Offices of the several Branches of this extensive Revenue, are disposed in this great Building, with the justest Regularity and Order imaginable.

HERE is no Confusion, notwithstanding the Vast Affluence of People that come every Day to make the Reports, and the Entries of Ships Outward and Inward Bound; and in the *Long-Room* it's a pretty Pleasure to see the Multitude of Payments that are made there in a Morning.

I HEARD Count *Tallard* say, that nothing gave him so true and great an Idea of the Richness and Grandeur of this Nation, as this, when he saw it after the Peace of *Reswick*.

I AM told that the Rebuilding of this Sumptuous *Custom-House*, cost King *Charles* the Second, at least Ten Thousand Pounds.

A STRANGER must not forget to visit also the NAVY and VICTUALLING-OFFICES, both adjacent to the *Custom-House*; both under the Direction of the Lord High-Admiral, and govern'd each by separate Commissioners, who have good Salaries.

THE NAVY-OFFICE have the entire Directions of the Building and Repairing of Her Majesty's *Navy-Royal*, in the several Docks of *Chatham*, *Deptford*, *Woolwich*, *Portsmouth*, *Harwich*, *Sheerness*, and *Plymouth*, and of all the

Naval Ports, where Her Majesty's Ships arrive, and where they have generally their Agents.

THIS OFFICE, you may imagine, is a little Town, where the different Apartments for each Branch of their Administration is so well disposed, that every Body who hath Business here, knows where to apply to; and they are so exact in their Methods, that a Gentleman of my Acquaintance, of whom the Commissioners had hired an *Advice-Boat*, was obliged to take *Certificates*, and pass his Accompts through Ten or Twelve several Offices, before he could go to that of the *Treasurer's*, to receive his Money.

THE Commissioners of *Victualling*, have the same Directions of providing Necessaries for the Subsistence of Her Majesty's Navy. They appoint *Pursers* in every Ship, and have their *Agents* for *Victualling* in most of the *Out-Ports*.

THE OFFICE is a very handsome Pile of Building, and well disposed for its Use.

THERE is another great OFFICE, (although in the *Tower*, of which I ought not according to my Method, as yet to describe to you) which you will expect to hear of from me, and that is the *Board of Ordnance*; or, (as we call it abroad) the *Artillery*: This Office is governed by a *Great-Master*, or *General* of the *Ordnance*, a *Lieutenant-General*, and Five other Officers, which compose that *Board* under proper Denominations; All the Castles and
Garrisons

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Garrisons in *England* are immediately under their Direction, as also all Stores of Warlike Provision by Sea and Land.

THE Greatest Men of the Nation have enjoyed this Employment ; and it's indeed esteem'd One of the most Valuable for Martial Men. The Old Duke of *Schomberg* was the First after the Arrival of King *William* ; the Earl of *Rumney* succeeded to him ; and on his Death the present Queen conferred it on the Duke of *Marlborough*. On his Disgrace, it was given to the Earl *Rivers*, who was succeeded by the Duke of *Hamilton*, he that was killed in a Duel by the Lord *Mobun*, after he was declared Ambassador to *France* ; and it now continues vacant.

Now, Sir, that I have done with the Great Publick OFFICES in and about this City, (for I am sure you don't expect that I should descend into the Little Ones) I am to tell you what I doubt not will surprize you, That here, in and about *London*, is the Noblest University in the World.

OXFORD and CAMBRIDGE you have read of, but here there are Fourteen Colleges, or Inns of Court, for the Statute and Common Law of the Nation ; one for *Physick*, and another for the *Civil Law* ; of which, I dare swear, you have never heard before.

THE Colleges for the Common Law are each governed by Masters independant on one another,

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ther, as the *Colleges* for *Philosophy* and other *Literature* are at *Cambridge*.

THE Three Chief are called the *Temple*, *Gray's-Inn* and *Lincoln's-Inn*.

THE *TEMPLE* is so called, because it was the Monastery of the *Knights-Templars Hospitallers* originally, and upon the Dissolution of that Order of *Knights-Errants*, converted to the Use of the Law. It's more like a Town than a College, most nobly Built, consisting of Two large Squares, which open each to the River, and each having a fine Garden on the River-side, for the common Benefit of the Students. Between the Two Squares are several Paved Courts, with very handsom Chambers for the Gentlemen that come there to study, and the whole much beyond any Thing I ever saw of the Kind abroad.

THERE are Five Gates by which one enters into this College, which are always shut up a Nights at regular Hours ; and their Privileges are so great, that no Person whether Student or other, can be Arrested in it for Debt, or taken out for any Crime, without the permission of the Heads of the College.

THERE is also a Regular *Table* kept for all the Students ; but they are not so strictly tyed to that Attendance as at *Cambridge*. Their *Church* is very Noble, and the *Portico* full of Antient Monuments of the *Knights-Templars*, which is an undoubted Confirmation of its Antiquity.

GRAT'S

GRAYS-INN, is also a College, like a little Town, to which you enter by Three Gates only, and it consists of Three noble Squares, well built *à la Moderne*, and hath a very large Garden with a noble *Terrass*, from whence you have a full View to *Hamsted*, and the neighbouring Country. The Students live here as in the former, with the same Privileges, and subject to much the same Rules.

LINCOLN'S-INN, joins to *Lincoln's-Inn-Square*, which I described to you in my former Letter; it's also a noble large College, and its New Square within the College, and fronting the Garden, I think One of the greatest Beauties about *London*; the Garden is large, full of fine Statues, and the Walks well kept for the Conveniency of both Sexes without distinction; and you enter it by Three Noble Gates.

THE other Nine Inns of *Court*, or *Colleges*, are called *Clifford's*, *Clement's*, *New-Inn*, *Lyons*, *Symon's*, *Thavys*, *Bernard's*, *Staple's*, and *Furnival's*; and all at a small Distance from each other. These are not so large as the former, but every one of them marked out into little Squares and Courts, as Commodious for the Practisers as the former, and endow'd with ample Privileges.

BESIDES these Inns, or Colleges, for the Councillors and Students, there are also Two celebrated ones, called *Serjeants-Inns*, for the Judges

Judges and Serjeants at Law ; in each of which, the Judges have their handsome Apartments where they do Business ; in each there is a noble Hall, where they Dine in *Term-Time* ; and to each Hall is a Chappel, where the Serjeants in their turns, provide one to Preach during the Term.

I WILL not pretend to enter into the Detail of the Rules of these Colleges, any more than I would of those of *Cambridge*, because I think that too tedious and dry for a Traveller ; I will only observe that hardly any of them are within the Precincts of Old *London*.

THE College of *PHYSICIANS* is indeed in the City, and is a very Beautiful and Magnificent Edifice, consisting of a square-Court, into which you enter by a noble Gate, like one of the Triumphant Arches of the Antient *Romans*.

ABOVE this Gate is their *Theatre* for Manual Operations in Chyrurgery ; and above that an eminent *Cupola*, from whence one has a full View of the whole City.

THIS *Theatre* entirely resembles a *Cock-Pit*, having Six Circular Wainscot Seats one above another ; and in the *Area*, or Pit, a Seat for the *President*, another for him that reads the *Lecture*, and a Third for the *Operator*. And in the preparatory Room adjacent, are Thirteen Tables of the *Muscles* in a Human Body ; to wit, before, behind, each side, and each *Muscle* in its proper Position.

OVER-AGAINST this Gate in the Court, you enter the *Hall*, over the Door of which you have a fine Figure of King *Charles* the II^d, with this Inscription in Capital Letters of Gold, viz. *Utriusque Fortuna exemplar ingens adversis rebus Deum probavit. Prosperis seipsum Collegii bujusce*, 1682.

IN the *Committee-Room* are 112 Folio Books that were preserved from the Fire in 1666, and near to that is the *Library-Room* with neat Galleries, to which you ascend by a Stair-Case finely wainscoted, where are kept their Books in the Nicest Order, of which there is a Folio Catalogue; below the Galleries are Five Shelves of *Folio's* extending round the Room; and above the Galleries Seven Rows of *Quarto's* and *Octavo's*.

A LITTLE higher is the *Hall* where the *Doctors* meet once a Quarter, which is handsomely adorned, and in it some of the Pictures of the Great Men in that Profession.

THIS *College* is govern'd by a *President*, Four *Censors*, a *Treasurer*, a *Register*, and 52 *Fellows*, chosen out of the Body.

THE *Censors* have Power to supervise all those that practise Physick in and about *London*. These *Censors* and their *President* are obliged to meet on the First *Friday* of every Month. And the Whole *Fellows* also at Four appointed Times in the Year, to give Advice to the Poor gratis, and order Medicines from their *Dispensaries*.

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THE College for the *CIVIL LAW*, near that of the *Physicians* also in the City, is called *Doctors-Commons*; a Name very well known in *Holland, Denmark, and Sweden*; because all Ships that were taken during the last Wars, belonging to those Nations, on suspicion of Trading with *France*, were brought to Tryal here; which occasion'd that Sarcastick Saying abroad, that *England* was a fine Country; but a Man called *Doctors Commons* was the Devil; for *there was no getting out of his Clutches, let ones Cause be never so good, without paying a great deal of Money.*

IT's a noble Pile of Building, divided into several handsome paved Courts, where the *Doctors*, and other Professors of the *Civil Law*, with their *Proctors*, reside; and the Court of *Admiralty* for trying Causes between Nation and Nation, in Relation to Trade; as also the *Ecclesiastical Jurisdictions*, not Subject to the *Common and Statute Law* of the Nation are tryed; such as *Divorces, Proving of Wills, &c.*

HEREUNTO adjoining, is also kept the *HERALDS-OFFICE*, erected into a College by *Richard the III*d, where are kept the Records of the Coats of Arms of all the Families and Names in *England*; when granted, and on what Occasion,

THIS

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THIS OFFICE is govern'd by the Earl-Marshal of *England*, and under him Three *Kings at Arms*, viz.

GARTER, whose sole Business relates to the Sovereign of the Order of the *Garter*, and the Ranks of the Nobility.

CLARENCIEUX whose Office relates to all Gentlemen under the Degree of a Baron, on the *South* side of *Trent*; and

NORROT beyond *Trent* to *Scotland*.

UNDER these Three *Kings*, are Six *Heralds*, and Four *Pursuivants*, and there are allowed Six *Proctors* to plead all Causes relating to Coats of Arms that are tryed before the Earl-Marshal, or his Deputy, in this College.

Heraldry is observed with greater Strictness, and Niceness here, than in any Country where I have been abroad.

A DUKE, a Marquis, an Earl, a Viscount, and a Baron, have each their distinct Coronets, which no Person dare put upon their Seals, or Coaches, but such as are of that Degree, on severe Penalties; the Inspection of which, is particularly the Province of this Office.

THE Peers wear their Coronets when a King or Queen is Crowned; and used likewise always to put them on when the King put on his Crown in the Parliament; but since the *Race* of the *Stuarts*, this last Custom is left off: However, as they are then in their Robes, it is a more Magnificent Figure than one can on any Occasion see in *France*, where *Heraldry* seems

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seems to be quite neglected, if not lost ; although there are more Books printed in *French* on that Subject, than in all the World besides.

IF a Peer of *England* passeth by you in his Coach, you immediately distinguish his Rank by his *Coronet* ; but in *France* every Person that can keep a Coach, puts what *Coronet* on it he pleases, and on their Seals every Body hath a *Coronet*. I remember my *Barber* at *Paris* carried a *Marquis's Coronet* above his *Cypher*.

FEW under the Degree of a Peer, are allowed to carry Supporters to their Arms here. Indeed some Chiefs of Antient Families have that Privilege ; but it is from a register'd Right in the *Heralds-Office*, otherwise they are severely punished ; an Instance of which, was *Brigadier-General L'Allo*, who, though a *Frenchman* born, and consequently (as he thought) not subject to the Rules of the Office, yet was obliged to take off the Supporters he gave to his Arms, because he could not prove, that even by Descent in *France*, he had a Right to carry them.

ALL the Nobility give *Motto's* to their Arms, a Thing not usual abroad ; and indeed every Gentleman may carry a *Motto*, or *Device*, but not give that of the Chief of the Family whose Name he bears, without their Consent.

THE Family of *Stuarts* on their Accession to the Crown of *England*, gave for their Motto, *Dieu, & mon Droit*, God, and my Right ; King *William* kept to the Old Motto of the Princes of *Orange*, *Je maintiendray*, I'll maintain it ; and this Queen gives as Queen *Elizabeth* did, *Semper Eadem*, always the Same.

THE

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THE Nobilities *Motto's*, some of them allude to their Undertakings; as the Duke of *Schomberg*, when he came over with King *William*, and was created a Duke, gave for his *Motto*, *Quo Fat a vocant*, Where Destiny calls me; and the Lord *Cutts*, who arrived to the Peerage by his Services in the Army, gave for his, *Sudore & Sanguine*, By Blood and Sweat.

THAT of the Duke of *Marlborough*, which he hath always carried since he was first made a Peer of this Realm, looks like a Prophecy, *Fiel pero desdegnato*, Faithful though in Disgrace. The Earl of *Orford's*, that great Admiral at Sea, looks like Predestination, *Che sara sara*, What will be will be. I must not forget a pleasant Remark on that of the Duke of *Shrewsbury*, when he went Ambassador to *France*; the *Motto* of that Antient and Noble Family is, *Prest d' Accomplir*, Ready to fulfil; which his Grace carrying on his Coach, as he went from *Calais* to *Paris*, all the Towns and Villages through which he passed, took it for a publick Advertisement that he was going to conclude the Peace.

IN short, all Gentlemen have a *Motto* to their Arms; and even the *Publick-Papers* that come out here Three Times a Week, take always a *Latin Motto* out of some of the Antient Roman Authors.

MANY of the Noblemen and Gentlemens *Motto's* Pun upon their Names, as *Cavendish*, Dukes of *Devonshire*; theirs is, *Cavendo tutus*; *Bellasis*, *Bonne & Belle Affect*; *Vernon*, *Ver non semper floret*: And I observed One Gentleman's Coach, which

which had a Goose for his Crest, with this Motto, *Mon Oye fait tout.*

THE Scots, who have a more unmixed Race of Antient Families, I am told, keep yet a more exact and strict *Herald's-Office*; but I shall say nothing of that till I come there.

How are the Churches in *Holland* adorned with *Escutcheons*, all with *Supporters*, and most with Ducal, Marquiss, or Viscounts *Coronets* over them? which would lead a Stranger to believe them a Noble Race of People in these Provinces; but you know that this is all *Chimera*, for in *Holland* there is no regular *Heraldry*; but every Tradesman, according to the Offices he hath served in the State, or the Pieces of Land which he hath purchased, Antiently bearing Title of *Viscomté*, or *Marquisate*, gives what *Coronet*, and what Arms he pleases.

IN *Flanders* it's something better, because there is a *Heralds-Office* still kept at *Brussels*; and the Spirit of these Provinces, as in *France*, seems to run after the Shadow of Antient Nobility; but then a Footman buying a *Marquisate*, or a *Viscomté*, which, God knows, are very easy Purchases there, takes the Title and *Coronet*; so that except the Duke D' *Aremberg*, the Duke D' *Havre*, the Count *Degmont*, and Marquiss *De Westerloe*, there are few amongst them, notwithstanding their Titles, that can pretend to Nobility.

IN *Germany* the Order of Gentlemen is well kept up in all the *Electors*; but not equal to

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that here ; for a Piece of Money will get any Man the Privilege of wearing the *Spread-Eagle* to support his Arms, though indeed it does not entitle him to many Privileges besides.

I OBSERVED Two Families here that have that Privilege, besides the Duke of *Marlborough*, viz. the Earl of *Denbigh*, to which all his Branches of the Name of *Fielding*, pretend; and the Lord *Lansdown*.

THIS *College* is very handsomely disposed, with a fine paved Court in the middle ; its *Library* is worth the Curiosity of a Stranger ; and in the *Hall* are the Pictures of King *Charles* the II^d, the Reviver of the Office ; the Favourite Duke of *Buckingham*, who was Murthered in King *Charles* the First's Reign, and some of the *Earls-Marshals*. This is an Office Hereditary in the Family of the *Howards*, Dukes of *Norfolk*, ever since the Year 1380, that *Thomas Mowbray*, Earl of *Nottingham*, was created the first, and the *Howard* by marrying his Daughter, hath enjoyed it in his Name ever since.

FROM this *College* I was resolved to see that of *SION*, at the Extremity of the City Walls near the *College* of *Bethlehem*, because of its Antiquity.

I AM told that the *Library* of this *College* was equal to most of the *College-Libraries* of any of the Universities, before the great Fire of *London* in 1666 ; but now it does not seem to come up to any I saw at *Cambridge*.

M

THIS

THIS *Library* and *College* is designed for the Use of the *Clergy* in and about *London*, where *Expectants* may lodge, till they are provided with Houses in the several Parishes where they serve *Cure* : It is also an Hospital for Ten Poor Men and Ten Poor Women ; and the Whole is governed by a *President*, Two *Deans*, and Four *Assistants*, who have their Apartments in the *College*.

THE Institution is for the Glory of God, the Good of his Church, Redress of Inconveniences in it, Maintaining Truth in Doctrine, and Love in Conversation one with another ; but for other Arts or Sciences they are not obliged to meddle with them.

FROM thence I went to the *CHARTERHOUSE*, commonly called so, having in the Time of the *Roman-Catholick* Religion, been the Convent of the *Chartreuse*, or *Cartbusian* Order ; a Set of People you know that never meddled with Dispute or Controversy, but lived *Speculatively* in their little Cells, without ever conversing with the World, or seeming Curious to know what passed in it.

YOU may remember that we saw at *Newport* in *Flanders*, the Successors to those that inhabited this great Monastery ; who told us, that on the Visitation made through all the Monasteries in *England*, by *Thomas Cromwell*, Earl of *Essex*, in the Reign of King *Henry the VIIIth*, such as escaped of their Order from the Gallows,

came

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came for Refuge thither, and built that handsome Monastery, which the *English* of that Order now possess in *Newport*, and where they keep the Antient Archives of this.

THEY also shewed us a Picture of the said *Thomas Cromwell*, with the Yeomen of the Guards attending him at the Execution of those Poor Wretches in *Smithfield*: But be that how it will, it is now converted to a most Noble and Charitable Use, by the Bounty of one Mr. *Thomas Sutton*, a private Gentleman, who gave Thirteen Thousand Pounds for the House, bestowed Six Thousand Pounds more in fitting it up, and left a Revenue, which now amounts to Six Thousand Pounds *per Annum* for its Support and Maintenance.

I APPEAL to *Rome*, and all her boasted Charities, if any of her *Cardinals* ever came up to near this of a private *Protestant* Gentleman, and this for the Maintenance of Eighty decayed Gentlemen, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN by Birth, and reduced to Poverty.

GENTLEMEN that have born Arms by Sea or Land, in the Service of their Country.

GENTLEMEN that have served in the Household of Kings or Queens, and by reason of Age or Infirmities can serve no longer.

AND MERCHANTS that by Piracy, or Shipwreck, are reduced to Necessity.

THE SOLDIERS may be admitted at the Age of Forty, but none of the others till after fifty.

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ALSO a *Free-School* for the Education of Forty Four Poor Boys, who are not to be under Ten, nor above Fourteen Years of Age at their Entrance; all lodged and fed within the *College*, and, according to their Capacity, to be sent to the *Universities*, or bound Apprentices to Trades, at the *College* Charge.

THE Governors of this Hospital are the Successive Great Officers of the Crown for ever; and under them a Master, or Governor for Life; who is to be unmarried, above Forty when he enters upon his Office, and incapable of any other Preferment in Church or State, that may draw him from his Care of, or Residence in the Hospital.

AND under him a Multitude of Inferior Officers, as in other *Colleges*.

THE Apartments are very neat and regular, the Gardens large; a pretty Bowling-Green, and the Walls still so high as those of that Order are generally abroad.

THIS *College* hath a handsome Square adjoining to its Garden which goes by its Name, well built, and but little Inferior to the Squares at the other End of the Town, formerly mentioned; for this is situated at the Extremity of the *North* Part of the City.

THE next is *GRESHAM-COLLEGE* also in the City, and founded by an Eminent Citizen, called Sir Thomas Gresham, in the Reign

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Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, for the Improvement of Youth in *Divinity*, *Civil Law*, *Astronomy*, *Geometry*, *Rhetorick*, *Physick*, and *Musick*; on which Subjects *Lectures* are read every Morning in *Term-Time* in *English*, and in the Afternoon in *Latin*, except *Musick*, which is always read in *English*, and any Gentleman may be present at these *Lectures*.

THE Seven *Professors* have Fifty Pounds *per Annum* each, and handsome Apartments in the *College*, which is a large *Piazza* of above an Acre of Ground Square, but much decayed through Age.

IT was here that the celebrated *Royal-Society*, so Famous all over the Learned World, also kept their Assemblies; but on some Difference of late between that *Society*, and the *Professors* in the *College*, that Noble Body have removed into *Two-Crane-Court* in *Fleetstreet*; where they have purchased a very handsome House, and built a *Repository* for their *Curiosities*, in a little paved Court behind.

THIS *Royal-Society*, of which King *Charles* the II^d stiled himself *Founder*, *Patron*, and *Companion*, is composed of the greatest Body of Men of Quality and Learning in most Nations of any *Academy* in the World; and their Business is the Improvement of *Natural* and *Experimental Kuowledge*; their indefatigable Search after which, into all the Corners of the Earth, are best seen in their Monthly *Transactions*, which have been constantly printed ever since

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their first Institution; and do now compose 25 Volumes.

THIS *ROYAL-SOCIETY* is govern'd by a *President*, and *Twenty Council*; and any Gentleman of Quality and Learning, may be admitted a Member of this Society, by having a good Testimony given of him to the *President* and *Council*: And indeed there is no Young Gentleman who hath finished his ordinary Course of Studies at the *University*, but will find great Improvement by meeting once a Week with so Learned a Body.

IT was of this *Society* that the Famous *Mal-liobecqui* at *Florence* told us, " That he believed
" the *Arts* and *Sciences* had taken Wing from
" *France*, his once Favourite-Country, and were
" fled into *England*.

THE *Repository* of Curiosities, is a *Theatrical-Building*, resembling that of *Leyden* in *Holland*.

I MUST own that I have seen much finer Collections abroad than this here; nay, some not much Inferior, made by private People.

YOU may Remember how Nice they are in such private Collections at *Rome*, *Florence*, *Venice*, *Padua*, and *Verona*: And at *Antwerp* I saw the oddest *Whim* of this Kind that could be imagin'd; which was, a Collection of *Eggs*, from the *Ostridge* down to the *Tom-Tit*.

I BELIEVE in this Collection, there is hardly any Fowl in the Four Parts of the *Universe*, from which he hath not purchased an *Egg*.

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at a Prodigious Expence; nor would he break his Collection for any Sum; he hath also another Curious Collection of *Sea-Shells*, and a fine one of *Original-Pictures*: His Name is *Monsieur Peters*.

THE Rarities in this *Repository* here, are put up into Boxes as abroad; and the *Beasts* and *Birds* hanging round the Room.

THE Chief of these in Boxes, are several *Mummies*, and *Anatomical Matters*, relating to Men and Beasts; Serpents, and Birds of all Kinds; Eggs, and Descriptions of Nests; Fishes of all Sorts, and their Natures; Insects, Woods, Branches and Leaves; all manner of Nuts and Fruits, Roots, Mosses, and Mushrooms; Plants of all Kinds; Animal Bodies petrified; Vegetable Bodies petrified; Coralls, and other Marine Productions; Gems of all Kinds; Gold, Silver, and Copper; Tin, Lead, and Iron; Antimony, Mercury, and other Metallick Bodies; with Salts, Sulphurs, and Earths.

THINGS relating to *Chymistry*, and other Parts of *Natural Philosophy*; Instruments relating to *Natural Philosophy*; and to the *Mathematicks* and *Mechanicks*, with several other Curiosities.

This *Society* hath also a very noble *Library*, which will increase yearly by the Addition of their own *Learned Transactions*; which are carried on daily in all Parts of the World, with indefatigable Industry and Success; and by the

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Presents of many Noble and Worthy Benefactors; of whom the Duke of *Norfolk*, Grand-Father to the Present Duke, presented them with Thirty Seven Presses full of Books at once.

THIS *Society* also hath a *Treasurer*, who receives and issues out all Monies pursuant to their Order; and a *Secretary*, who receives all Letters of Informations, Projects, Inventions, and Propositions, that are sent from all Parts; and also a *Register*, who enters all Experiments, and Proceedings of their several Meetings.

THERE are abundance of *Foreigners* Members of this *Society*, who keep a constant Correspondence with her.

THEY chuse the *Fellows* by *Balloting*, who at their Entry pay Forty Shillings to the *Treasury*, and Thirteen Shillings *per Quarter*, so long as they continue Members.

IN FINE, this *Royal-Society* hath much improved this Nation in *Naval*, *Civil*, and *Military Architecture*, as also in Gardening.

THEY have a *Coat of Arms* as a *Society*, with this Motto, *Nullius in Verba*.

THEY chuse their *President* and *Council* every *St. Andrew's Day*.

I HAVE

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I HAVE now given you the Description of the several *Colleges* in and about *London* ; I must also tell you, that for all Youth fit for these *Colleges*, as well as for the other *Universities*, here are abundance of *Excellent Schools* for Gentlemen ; that of *Westminster*, *St. Paul's*, *Merchant-Taylors*, and *Mercers-Hall*, are equal to the *Jesuits Colleges* abroad : But in what this Nation surpasses all the World abroad, is, in the *Charity-Schools*, of which there are in *London* alone, *Eighty-Eight*, that Teach and Cloath above *Three-Thousand Boys and Girls* yearly ; and the Famous Hospital of *Christ-Church*, adjoining almost to the *Charter-House*, is Inferior to none of those at *Venice*, so celebrated abroad ; and breeds many *Excellent Scholars*.

I MUST observe to you, that here is no Hospitals for *Bastards*, as in *Italy* ; not but that they get *Bastards* here, as well as in other Countries ; but People are not ashamed here of taking Care of their own Children.


LETTER



LETTER XII.

Tower of London Feb. 17th, 17th.

S I R,

OU will see by the Date of this, how exact I am to the Method I have laid down for describing this Great City without Confusion; since to that End I have remov'd from the *Pall-Mall*, to this great *Arsenal* the *Tower*, being full Two Miles distance.

THIS great *Arsenal* of *England* may be rather called a *Town* than a *Citadel*; containing several Streets for the Officers of the *Mint*, or *Coinage* of Money, which is kept here; for the *Board*, and the Officers of the *Ordnance*; the *Warders*, and the Officers depending on the *Lord High-Constable*, with the vast Magazines depending on those Officers.

IT's of a very large Circumference, furround-ed by a high Wall, and deep Ditch, of above 100 Foot broad.

IT's

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IT's much larger than either of the *Citadels* of *Antwerp*, *Ghent*, *Lisle*, *Tournay*, or the *Bastile* at *Paris*; yet not so large as the *Arsenal* at *Venice*, because that is also a Magazine for Shipping, which this is not.

THE first Thing that draws the Attention of a Stranger here, is, the *Repository* of the *Regalia*, or *Jewel-House*, where are constantly kept the several Crowns, Scepters, and other Ensigns of Royalty of this Kingdom, viz.

THE *Imperial Crown*, with which all the Kings and Queens of this Nation have been crown'd since *Edward the Confessor*, in Anno 1042.

THE *Royal Scepter*, with a Cross on the Top, of great Antiquity, and in which is a *Jewel* of inestimable Value; is held by the Kings or Queens in their Right Hand, as is the *Globe*, or *Orb* of the World, held in their other Hand at their *Coronation*.

THE *Diadem*, which Her Present Majesty wore in Her Procession to the *Coronation*.

THE *Rich Crown of State*, which the Kings and Queens wear on their Throne in *Parliament*, when they Pass the several Acts; in which Crown is an *Emerald* Seven Inches in Circumference; a *Pearl*, owned by all Nations to be the Finest in the World; and a *Ruby* of extraordinary Value.

ANOTHER *Rich Crown*, made for the *Coronation* of the late Queen *Mary*, the Royal Consort of King *William*.

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TWO *Fine Scepters*, and the *Golden Eagle*, in which they kept the *Consecrated Oyl*, and other *Ornaments of the Regalia*.

THE next Curiosity is the *LITTLE ARMORY*, or Magazine of *Small Arms*, where there are all manner of *Fuzees*, *Carabines*, *Halberts*, *Pykes*, *Bayonetts*, *Pistols*, and *Swords*, for Sixty Thousand Men, disposed in the handsomest manner imaginable, viz.

THE TWO Sides of the Room is adorned with *Pilasters* of *Pykes* and *Pistols* of the *Corinthian Order*; whose *Inter-Columns* are chequered Work of *Carabines* and *Pistols*; and *Waves of the Sea*, of *Swords* and *Bayonetts*.

HALF-MOONS, *Cemi-Circles*, and a *Target of Bayonetts*.

THE Form of a *Battery* in *Swords* and *Pistols*.

SUNS with *Circles of Pistols*.

A PAIR of *Gates* in *Halberts* and *Pistols*.

THE *Witch of Endor* (as they call it) with in Three *Elipses of Pistols*.

BACK-BONES of a *Whale* in *Carabines*; and a *Fiery Serpent*, *Jupiter* and the *Hydra*, in *Bayonetts*.

THE *Star and Garter* of that Noble Order, most gloriously represented in *Pistols* and *Swords*; and, at some distance, the *Arms* taken from the designed *Assassins* of King *William*.

AT the Ends, are also Eight *Square-Columns*, or *Pillars*, with Eight round ones of *Pykes* and *Pistols*,

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Pistols, which make the most Useful, as well as most Beautiful, *Decoration* in the World; and there are Ten Men, at Ten Shillings *per Week* each, who have no other Business, but to keep these Arms clean.

UNDER this *Armory* of *Small-Arms*, is the Great Armory for *ARTILLERY*; in which, besides vast Numbers of *Great Ordnance* on proper *Carriages*, are kept several Pieces of Curiosity; *viz.* Six Great *Mortars*, each of which will carry a Bomb of 500 *Weight* Two Miles, as they say they have experimented.

A *MORTAR* that throws Nine several *Shells* at a Time.

A VAST Quantity of Brass New Cannon, with several other Martial Engines.

IN the *White-Tower*, the Antient Palace of several Kings, is now the Magazine for *Powder*, where there are seldom less than Three Thousand Barrels at a Time.

THE *HORSE-ARMORY* here is also very prettily disposed, and much handsomer than that of the same Kind at *Brussels*; though, I think, not quite so Beautiful as that at *Dresden* in *Saxony*; here are Fifteen of the *English Kings* on *Horse-Back* in Fine Rich *Armour*; and the *Horse-Armour* also very neat; and a *Silver-Armour* of *John of Gaunt*, Seven Foot and a half High; besides abundance of others very showish, in the same Manner as those at *Dresden* and *Brussels*.

ANOTHER

ANOTHER *Curiosity* in this Tower of LONDON, is the MINT, or COINAGE of MONEY, very well worth the Entertainment of a Stranger; and though most Nations have the same, yet they are not branched out into so many different Offices as this.

THIS OFFICE makes a large Street, and yet there are none of the Officers, but upon Examination, are found necessary for a Kingdom, where there is such a Constant and Prodigious Flux and Reflux of Money.

THE Warden, who at present is Mr. Payton, a Gentleman of good Distinction in this Nation, and much a Man of Pleasure and Play, is reckoned to be the Chief Officer; his Business is to receive the Gold and Silver *Bullion*, and to distribute it out to the proper Officers for *Coinage*.

MASTER of the Mint is the next, who is the Famous Sir Isaac Newton, President to the Royal-Society; and whose Book of *Mathematicks*, hath the first Place in the Learned World, of its Kind.

HIS Business, or Office, is to receive the *Bullion* of each Kind, from the Warden, to deliver it to the Workers, or Monoyers; and when Coined, to return it to the Warden again.

THE Comptroler's Business, is to Inspect this *Coinage*, that it be in *Affay*, and qualified as it ought to be, for which he hath a good Salary.

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THE *Affay-Master* also is to Inspect it, and to see that it is according to the *Affay* of Fineness required by Law.

THERE is also a *Surveyor*, after all these, that takes Care that the Fineness be not altered in the melting.

WITH these great Precautions, this Kingdom of *England* hath arrived to the Reputation of having the best *Coin*; and consequently regulates the *Exchanges* of Money all over *Europe* by it; but it is attended with this Misfortune, that as their *Coin* is rather above, than under the Intrinsic Value of Silver and Gold, I wish it does not tempt Needy *Silver-Smiths* to melt down their *Coin* to get a Penny by it; for a Crown-Piece (which is Five Shillings) is worth Five and Four-Pence when melted; and this I must own is a great Bait, especially in a Country where the *East-India* Company exports so much *Bullion*, and pays so well for it; but as the melting down the *Coin* is Death by Law, I hope it is not practised; but, however, it is mightily suspected.

IN this Tower is also kept the OFFICE of *Records*, or *Archives* of the Nation: No Nation can shew a more Beautiful Disposition, nor in better Order, no, not the *Vatican-Library* at *Rome*, than this Office.

IT's kept open from Eight to Twelve in the Morning; and from Two to Six in the Evening, for every Body that pleases to enquire after,
or

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or examine any *Record* for his Benefit and Satisfaction ; and to these Rolls are near 100 Folio *Indexes*, to which every Gentleman may apply for what he wants to be satisfied in ; and this Re-search may be continued as long as a Gentleman's Leisure will give him leave ; nay, for a Year together, if he pleases, for Ten Shillings.

THE OFFICE of *Ordnance*, which I mentioned amongst the other State-Offices, is, as I told you also kept here ; and the Apartments of the several Officers, according to their Ranks, as well disposed, as any of the Kind I have seen in any Nation abroad.

THIS TOWER is also the Prison for all *Criminals* of *State* of the First Quality ; for the Keeping of whom, there are Forty *Warders*, much like the Office of a *Messenger of State* ; into whose Hands the Body of a Person of Quality is consign'd.

THESE *Warders* are under the Direction of the Lord *High-Constable* of the *Tower* ; who is always a Person of the First Quality : Under him is a *Governor*, a *Deputy-Governor*, a *Major*, a *Gentleman-Porter*, Two *Master-Gunners*, with their *Subaltern Officers* ; a *Chaplain*, *Physician*, *Surgeon*, *Apothecary* ; and every OFFICE else, requisite for a Well-regulated *Corporation*.

IN

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IN entering this *Arsenal*, or *Tower*, on the Left Hand before you arrive at the great Gate, is also an Antient Apartment where the *Lyons* that are presented from the Emperors of *Morocco*, or on any other Occasion, are kept, and round it without, is a void Space of Ground called *Tower-Hill*, where the *execution* of People of Quality for *High-Treason* is generally perform'd.

I CANNOT here forbear taking notice to you, that no Nation in the World *beheads* after so indecent a manner as the *English*; you know that all over *Germany*, and in the *Low-Countries*, this Execution is made by a *Scymitar* or *Sword*, which with a Back-Stroak cuts off the Head at once. In *France* indeed Publick Executions for Treason have not been seen since the Arbitrary Government of this King; nor in some Years in the several States of *Italy*; but here all Executions must be Publick, and that of *Beheading* is done by an Axe on a Wooden-Block, where the Sufferer lays down his Neck; and either by the Bluntness of the Instrument, or Timorousness of the Executioner, there is often made Two or Three Blows before they cut the Head off; an unaccountable Piece of Barbarity.

I AM told that in *Scotland* they have an Engine for this purpose, which is let fall by a *Pully*, and can never miss doing the Business at one Stroke.

IT'S pity, now these Nations are united, that this *Southern* Part does not Copy after the *Northern* in so ready a way of executing; for I have heard, that when my Lord *Russell* was Beheaded,

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the First Stroke was cross the Shoulders ; and the Duke of *Monmouth* received Three Strokes at least before his Head was struck off.

I KNOW that you will be surprized when I tell you, that to this vast Circumference of *London*, *Westminster*, and the Space between, which I have given you a Description of before, there are properly speaking neither Walls nor Gates ; for you may enter at all Hours and at all Corners when you will. It's true, there are some Antient Gates which were the Confines of Old *London*, but these are now more in the Middle than the Extremities of these two Cities.

FOR *NEW GATE*, which was formerly one of the principal Gates, is now the Centre of *London* and *Westminster* ; and above, and adjoining to this Gate, is kept the chief Prison for Debtors and some Malefactors in *England*. It's indeed an Ornamental Gate, resembling some of the Triumphal Arches at *Rome*, if it had not a Prison a-Top. It is of Free-Stone Embellished with abundance of Statues.

LUDGATE is another, at a small distance from this, in which is also a Prison for Debtors, and is likewise very Beautiful and a great Ornament to the City. They tell you, that it was Built by one *Lud*, who was a *British* King 66 Years before the Birth of our *Saviour*, but re-built by several Princes and at several Times since. It's Adorned with the Statues of the said King *Lud* and

and his Two Sons, and with a fine Figure of the famous Queen *Elizabeth*; and I think it not inferior to any Gate I ever saw abroad.

ALDERSGATE also, in the Centre of the City, is a very noble Gate, with the Figure of King *James* the First on Horseback in *Bas-Relief*, a-Top with the Prophets *Jeremiah* and *Samuel* on each Side; and this may be properly called a Triumphal Arch on that Prince's coming to the Throne; alluding to the Prophecy of *Jeremiah*, on one Side, *Chap. 17. ver. 25.* *Then shall there enter into the gates of this city, kings and princes sitting upon the throne of David, riding in chariots, and on horses, they and their princes, the men of Judah, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and this city shall remain for ever.* And the First Book of *Samuel*, *Chap. 12. ver. 1.* *And Samuel said unto all Israel, Behold, I have bearkened unto your voice in all that ye said unto me, and have made a king over you.*

CRIPPLEGATE is very Antient, and near the Extremities of the Old City, and a very venerable Pile.

BISHOPSGATE is just such another, with some Old Weather-beaten Statues upon it, like Bishops.

ALDGATE seems another Triumphal Arch to the Honour of King *James* the First, though
N 2 its

its Foundation is of much greater Antiquity; and all these are in the Antient City of *London*. But where the old Bounds joyn with the New, near the *Temple*, is a very handsome Gate called *TEMPLE-BAR*, finely Adorned with the Statues of *K. Charles* the First and Second on one Side, and *K. James* the First with his Queen on the other.

IT is at this Gate where the *Mayor* and *Aldermen* meet the *Kings at Arms* and *Knight-Mareschal*, when they come to enter the City to proclaim a King or Queen. This Gate being always shut on those Occasions till the *Lord-Mayor* is acquainted with their Business. It's also at this Gate where the *Lord-Mayor* receives a King or Queen when they please to make a Publick Appearance in the City.

THERE are also Two Gates as you go from *Whitehall* to *Westminster*, but these seem to be Remnants of that Palace; and one at *St. John's* beyond the *Charter-House* which is likewise the Remains of a Religious House that stood there; and these are all the Gates in and about this great City.

THUS you see that *Gates*, which are the Ornament of Fortify'd Cities abroad, are despised by this great unbounded City, which scorns to be so confined.

THERE is another thing I must not forget while I am speaking of Gates, which are Publick and Private Statues, another great Ornament of Cities abroad; but I am ashamed to tell you, that they are here, though in no small Number,
yet

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yet so ordinary, that I do assure you we have seen more good Statues in many Private Families in *Italy*, than throughout all *London*. The Taste of the *English* does not lye that Way, though no Nation have perhaps a truer Taste in *Painting* than they, nor lay-out more Money for fine Collections; yet this of *Statuary* is not so much sought after; however such as they are, I will give you a true Account of, as I survey'd them in my Walks round this vast City.

AT CHARING-CROSS stands an *Equestrian* Statue in *Brass* of *Charles* the First, on a Pedestal of 17 Foot high, and enrailed with Iron much after the manner of that of *Henry* the Fourth of *France* on the *Pont-Neuf* at *Paris*. It looks full towards the Place of that Prince's sad Catastrophe at *Whitehall*. The Figure of the King is finely done, but the *Brass* Stone-Horse looks more like a Mare with Foal: It was however cast by that celebrated Master *La Seur*.

IN WHITEHALL there is indeed a very curious *Brass* Statue of that unhappy Prince *K. James* the Second who dyed in *France*, done after the manner of the *Cæsars*, and very like him, but with so mournful an Aspect, as if it were prophetically designed to mourn over the Ashes of that venerable Pile. It stands in the Middle of a Square, between the *Banquetting-House* and what was formerly the Royal Apartments adjoining to the River.

AT STOCKS-MARKET in the City near the *Royal-Exchange*, is also an *Equestrian* Statue of Marble of King *Charles* the Second; but tho' the Design of the Whole is great, yet it is so poorly perform'd by the Architect, that it is pity so Opulent and so Loyal a City has not pulled it down, and Erected one more suitable to the Memory of that Prince in its Stead. There are none of these paltry Statues Erected in the Dominions of the Republick of *Venice* to the Memory of their several *Podestas*, but what excel it; though indeed this King's fine *Equestrian* Statue at *Windsor*, which I have already mention'd to you, makes much Amends for the Indifference of this.

I HAVE also already told you of another of this Prince in the Middle of *Soho-Square*. There is also a bold One in his *Regalia* on *Christ's-Hospital*.

IN the *Area* of *St. Paul's-Church* is a Noble Statue Erected of the present Queen in Marble; though I cannot say it's extremely like Her Majesty, yet it is very Masterly done, with her Crown on her Head, her Scepter and Globe in her Hands, and Adorned with her Royal Robes, and Ensigns of the Garter. Round her Pedestal are Four fine Figures also in Marble, representing *Great-Britain*, *France*, *Ireland*, and *America*: And I must own to you, that this Statue adorns

London

London more than that of the *French King* does *Paris* in the *Place Victoire*, being much more conspicuous; though indeed the *Inscription* is not so Pompous, nor are Lamps always burning before it, as are there.

OF the Twenty-Four Niches that are in the *Royal-Exchange*, Seventeen are filled up with the Kings and Queens of *England*, from *Edward* the First, bigger than the Life, Adorned all with their Ensigns of Royalty, except that of King *James* the Second, who is in the Figure of a *Cæsar* with a Battoon in his Hand, and which they say was broke by the Force of the Wind the Night that the Prince of *Orange* Landed; but be that as it will, it's certain that the Battoon continues broke in his Hand.

A noble Figure in Marble of King *Charles* the Second is placed in the Middle of the Square of this *Exchange*, the finest Building of its Kind in the whole World, and of which I shall give you a particular Description in its proper Place.

THIS Statue is Erected on a *Pedestal* of Marble Eight Foot high, and amongst other Things in the *Inscription* are these Words, viz.

*Cæsari Britannico Patriæ Patri,
Regum Optimo, Clementissimo, Augustissimo,
Generis Humani Delicijs,
Utriusque Fortunæ Victori,
PACIS Europæ ARBITRO,
Marium Domino ac Vindici.*

And this very well answers his Character of *Arbiter*, and Holder of the Balance of *Europe*, which he certainly was when this Statue was Erected.

THERE is also a bold Statue as big as the Life, and very like, of *Henry the VIIIth*, on the Gate of *St. Bartholomew's-Hospital*; and likewise a very fine one of *Queen Elizabeth* over the Gate of *Guild-hall-Chappel*, with the Statue of her Predecessor *Edward the Sixth* on her Right, and her Successor *James the First* on her Left; his Scepter in his Hand, and Sword by his Side.

THIS of *Queen Elizabeth* is so like the *Madonas of Italy*, that I dare swear if it were there, Devotion would be made to it. There are also two bold Statues, the one of *K. Charles the First*, the other of *K. Charles the Second*, on each Side of the great Gate of the *Exchange*, and the same on that of *Temple-Bar*.

As for private Statues, there is a *Hercules*, a *Julius Cæsar*, an *Augustus*, a *Pompey*, *Mark-Anthonny*, and a bold *Neptune*, all in *Lincolns-Inn-Garden*.

THERE were also some very good ones in the Gardens of the Royal Palaces of *Somerset-House*, *St. James's*, and *Whitehall*; But they are all remov'd to *Hampton-Court*.

AND the Dukes of *Montague* and *Buckingham* have each in their Gardens a Copy of the famous *Gladiator* in the *Villa Borghefe* at *Rome*.

AND another which *K. Charles the Second* set up at the Head of the *Canal* in *St. James's-Park*, but it is now likewise removed to *Hampton-Court-Garden*,

THERE

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THERE is also a fine *ATLAS* guild on *St. Magnus Church*, near *London-Bridge*; and *Two Lunatics Cumbent*, bigger than the *Life*, on the Gate of the Hospital of *Bethlehem*; with some others of less Note on the Churches of *London*; but these would be too tedious to mention, and not worthy the Attention of a Traveller.

OF the Publick Buildings in *London*, the *EXCHANGE* well deserves the first Place. It was first built by the same *Sir Thomas Gresham* that built *Gresham-College*, and by Order of *Queen Elizabeth*, was proclaimed by a *Herald* with Sound of Trumpet, *ROYAL*; but being consumed by the dreadful Fire of *London*, in the Year 1666, it was re-built by Order of *King Charles the Second*, who laid the first Stone; and cost the City and *Mercers Company*, (being Executors to the *Will* of its first Founder *Sir Thomas*) as I am inform'd, full Fifty Thousand Pounds. For which, however, they have the Rents of the Vaults and Shops, which, I am likewise told, amount to near Five Thousand Pounds *per Annum*.

IT is a very handsome Square, consisting of Eight and Twenty Columns, convenient for the *Merchants* to walk in, to be free from the Rain and Sun, besides the Space in the *Area*, which is about an Acre,

YOU

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YOU enter into it by Two Sumptuous Gates fronting *South* and *North*; on the Right of the *South*, under the Columns, are the Walks of the *Spanish*, *French*, *Portuguese*, *Italian*, and *Jewish* Merchants; and on the Left, those of the *English American* Plantations.

AT the *North-Gate*, the *Irish* and *East-Country* Walk is on the Right as you enter; and on the Left, the *Scotch* and *Germans*; and in the Middle of the open Space, the Citizens and Brokers of *London*.

ABOVE Stairs there are Two Rows of Shops, which in the whole Round may contain about Two Hundred; and in the Steeple, which is a Curious Piece of Architecture, is a fine Chyme of Bells.

THERE are also on each side of the Gates without, a *Piazza* supported by Ten Noble Pillars each.

GUILD-HALL, or the *Town-House* of *London*, is a Venerable Antient Pile, where the *Mayor*, *Aldermen*, and Others concerned in the Government of this City, do meet; it is not so fine as the *Stadt-House* in *Amsterdam*, but resembles those other Antient *Stadt-Houses* that we saw at *Ghent*, *Bruges*, and *Middleburgh*. The great *Hall* may be 160 Foot long; near 50 broad, and near 60 high; it's adorned with the Pictures of the Queen, King *William* and Queen *Mary*, and the *Judges* in King *Charles* the Second's Reign, in their proper Habits, and at full Length.

This

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This *Hall* seems to be of great Antiquity, the Arms of *Edward the Confessor*, being in several Places about it.

MOST of the Companies of Trade have also their particular *HALLS*, very Spacious, and very Noble, and well worthy the Curiosity of a Stranger.

ADJOYNING to *Guild-Hall*, is *BLACKWELL-HALL*, so Famous all over *Europe* for being the Greatest Mart for Clothing in the World.

A TRAVELLER cannot miss seeing the *BANK* of *England*, whose Interest is larger than that of *Amsterdam*; and its Security better than that of *Venice*. Nor the House of that extensive Company to the *East-Indies*, that to *Africa*, and that to the *South-Sea*.

BESIDES these publick Societies, this City composes an infinite Number of those that are less, for the Reformation of Manners, Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, and doing Christian Acts of Charity; among which the *Scotish* Nation hath a Hall in *Black-Fryars*, for relieving their Indigent Country-Men, providing them with necessary Sums for carrying them into their own Country.

T H E R E

THERE are likewise an infinity of CLUBS, or SOCIETIES, for the Improvement of Learning, and keeping up good Humour and Mirth; of the first Rank is the *Kitt-Catt*, commonly so called, because their Original Meeting was at the House of one *Christopher Catt*; of which, the late Great Earl of *Dorset*, was One of the first Founders.

This *Club* can have but *Thirty-Nine* Members, who are all Men of the first Rank, for Quality, or Learning; and most of them have been employed in the greatest Offices of State, and in the Army; and none but are Gentlemen of the greatest Distinction in some way or other. All their Pictures are drawn by that Great Master *Sir Godfrey Kneller*, and kept in Commemoration of that August Assembly, by their Ingenious *Secretary*, *Mr. Tonson*, with whom you was so much charmed in *Holland*.

THE *Hannover-Club*, also composed of Noblemen of the first Quality, and Officers of the Army, Affectionate and Zealous for the Succession of the Crown to that Illustrious Family, have their Meeting as the former; they are, as all the other innumerable Clubs, kept within this Great City, prescribed by Rules; and have their *President*, *Secretary*, &c.

IN the Time of the sitting of the Parliament, there are also Clubs composed of the different Members

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Members of the *House of Commons*, where most Affairs are digested before they are brought into the House.

THAT of the OCTOBER hath made a great Noise all over *Europe*; and we have seen in *Holland* Books printed for and against this *Society*. In the City of *London*, almost every Parish hath its separate Club, where the Citizens, after the Fatigue of the Day is over in their Shops, and on the *Exchange*, unbend their Thoughts before they go to Bed.

BUT the most diverting, or amusing of all, is the *Mug-House-Club* in *Long-Acre*, where every *Wednesday* and *Saturday*, a mixture of Gentlemen, Lawyers and Tradesmen, meet in a Great Room, and are seldom under a Hundred.

THEY have a grave Old Gentleman in his own Gray Hairs, now within a few Months of Ninety Years Old, who is their *President*; and sits in an arm'd Chair some Steps higher than the Rest of the Company, to keep the whole Room in Order. A *Harp* plays all the Time at the lower End of the Room; and every now and then One or Other of the Company rises and Entertains the Rest with a Song, and (by the by) some are good Masters. Here is nothing drank but Ale, and every Gentleman hath his separate *Mug*, which he Chalks on the Table where he sits as it's brought in; and every one Retires when he pleases, as from a *Coffee-House*.

THE

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THE Room is always so diverted with Songs, and drinking from one Table to another to one another's Healths, that there is no Room for *Politicks*, or any Thing that can sow'r Conversation.

ONE must be there by Seven to get Room, and after Ten the Company are for the most Part gone.

THIS is a Winter's Amusement, that is agreeable enough to a Stranger for once or twice, and he is well diverted with the different Humours when the *Mugs* over-flow.

I am,

SIR,

Yours, &c

LETTER



LETTER XIII.

Southwark, Feb. 20th, 17th.

SIR,

HEARING left my last Letter from the Tower should quite tire you if I made it longer, I concluded, that before I glutted you with London, I ought to make an Excursion hither, which is the Suburb to London, on the other side of the River, as *Transtevere* is to *Rome*; the *Fauxburgh* St. *Germain* to *Paris*; and *Gallata* to *Constantinople*.

It is entirely a Part of the Great City, tho' it sends Two Members to Parliament, as *Westminster* does, and is divided from it by the River, and its large Bridge.

THIS Suburb, extending from *Lambeth*, the Arch-Bishop of *Canterbury's* Palace, opposite to *Westminster*, down to the Extremity of *Rotherhithe*, opposite to *Wapping*, may make at least Five Miles in length; as from *Westminster* down to *Lime-House*, on the City side, may make Seven

ven ; so that the Circumference of this Great City on both Sides of the River, may be justly computed Fifteen good Miles.

IT's astonishing to a Stranger, when he is on the Middle of this *Bridge*, to have the full Prospect downwards of a Wood of Ships ; and upwards the Ascent of the City to *Westminster*.

LONDON-BRIDGE, is a Curiosity well-deserving the Attention of a Stranger, being certainly the longest and largest in *Christendom*; not to be parallel'd in the least by any Thing of the Kind we have seen abroad. It is full Twelve Hundred Foot long, from End to End, and a Street built upon it full Twenty Foot broad from House to House ; and the Houses on each side, may be (as I am credibly inform'd) Twenty Seven Foot deep, and the *Flux* and *Reflux* is here very Violent.

THIS Prodigious *BRIDGE* stands upon Nineteen wide Arches, which are fenced with large *Sterlings* for the keeping off the Force of the Tide. I cannot but observe to you the *Motto* on the Sun-Dial of this Bridge, which is, *Time and Tide stays for no Man*.

I HAVE remarked several other adapt *Motto's* on Dials in which the *English* excel, viz.

ON *New-Gate*, where the Malefactors are kept, is *Venio ut fur* ; and in the *Temple* where the Lawyers reside, one is, *Begone about your Business* ; but I think the best is hard by the great *Hall* there, *Pereunt & imputantur*.

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NEAR this Bridge stands a famous Monument, Erected in Commemoration of that lamentable Fire which burnt this City in 1666 ; it's built in the form of a *Candle*, in imitation of *Trajan's Pillar* at *Rome* ; and there is a Pair of winding Stairs within which leads you up to a High *Balcony*, from whence you have a fine view of the City.

THIS Pillar, which is 202 Foot long, and Fifteen Foot round, is placed on a *Pedestal* embellished with *Bass-Reliefs* curiously representing that melancholy Scene. There are Three Hundred and Forty Five Steps in the Stairs, and each Step near a Foot broad.

THE Top of this Monument makes a handsome *gilded Flame* like that of a *Candle*. You must not take this Pillar to be so ornamental to *London* as those of *Trajan* and *Marcus Antoninus* are to *Rome* : It hath none of those fine Sculptures which adorn them, but is a plain Pillar, except the *Pedestal*, and both of Free Stone.

I MUST not leave this Bridge of *London*, without telling you, that there is a curious Engine at this Bridge, which by the *Flux* and *Reflux* of the Tide, raises the Water to such a Heighth, as to furnish most Parts of the City, and especially the Breweries with *Thames* Water.

IN *Southwark* is built the famous Hospital of *St. Thomas* for Indigent Sick People, and where they are received and taken care of according

O

cording to their several Distempers with the greatest application, even beyond that of the *Hotel-Dieu* at *Paris*, or the *Incurabile* at *Venice*. And sure nothing can deter Youth more from careless Whoring, than sending them along with the Surgeons to this Hospital when they make their Operations on both Sexes in that foul Disease.

THIS Hospital consists of Three large Courts, Paved and Supported by Pillars. In the Middle of the Third is a fine Statue of Marble of One Sir *Robert Clayton*, a great Benefactor to this Hospital. The Rooms or Wards (as they are call'd here) are very conveniently disposed. And each Distemper have their different Apartments, some with Thirty, and some with Twenty Beds in a Ward.

THE Hospital is provided with a competent Number of *Physicians*, *Apothecaries*, *Surgeons*, and *Nurses*. And there are generally above 200 of the most eminent Citizens, besides the *Lord-Mayor* and *Aldermen*, who have the Inspection and Direction of it.

THIS Hospital with that of *Christ-Church* for Orphans, and *Bridewell* for Criminals, were Founded by that Pious Young Prince, King *Edward* the VIth.

CHRIST'S-HOSPITAL, in the Center of the City, was, in the time of Popery, the Monastery of the Order of *St. Francis*, and contains near 1000 Orphans, all Maintained and Cloathed and Instructed, in *Reading*, *Writing*, *Mathematicks*, *Navigation*, *Drawing*, and *Musick*, till they

they arrive to the Age of Eighteen ; when they are put out to Trades according to their respective Capacities ; and is a most noble Foundation, not unlike the *Hospitalletta* at *Venice*. It is regulated by several excellent Institutions too tedious to insert here. And the Halls are Adorned with some good Pictures ; amongst which is the Court of K. *James* the Second, wherein there is the Figure of the present Duke of *Buckingham*, then Lord Chamberlain, and very like him, done by *Varo*.

BRIDEWELL was formerly a Royal Palace, but is now converted into a Work-house, like the *Rasp-House* at *Amsterdam*. Many a pretty Girl is brought into it with their fine Cloaths, but for all that is forc'd to receive Correction here for Night-Walking ; of which Sort of Cattel this City abounds more than any City in the World ; it being impossible to walk the Streets, and especially about the Play-Houses, without being picked up by this Sort of Vermin. There is also another House of Correction in this City for all Vagrant Loose Persons who are taken in the Night, and are there put to Work.

THAT of **BETHLEHEM** for Mad People is a very Noble Building, being 528 Foot in Front, and in a very good Air. The Building is said to cost near 18000*l*. and is well worth the Curiosity of a Stranger.

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THE Square before it (called *MOOR-FIELDS*) is very spacious, and well planted with Trees; and a little beyond it in the Fields is also a noble Hospital for decayed *Haberdashers*, which cost one Mr. Ask 12000 *l.* and is a sumptuous Pile of full 400 Foot in Front. I cannot omit the Motto on the Sun-Dial for its aptness, which is, *Cito pede præterit.*

BESIDES these Hospitals, there are a prodigious Number of smaller *Alms houses*, for the Sustenance of Old-Age of both Sexes in Decay, and Schools for the Youth: And although *Holland* values it self, especially *Amsterdam*, in those sorts of Charities, yet I do believe there are more of these Alms-Houses in and about *London*, than in all the Cities of *Holland* put together.

THERE are at least One Hundred and Fifty *Churches* and *Chappels* in and about this City; and the Parliament hath ordered the Building of Fifty more. There are also a great Number of *Meeting-Houses*, where those that dissent from the Church of *England* keep their Assemblies, even the *Roman-Catholicks*. But it were to be wished, that *Christians* went to their several Assemblies with the same charitable Brotherly Love as in *Holland*; but the Differences of Religion here enters even into private Conversation, and causes not only Rents and Divisions in Corporations, but in Private Families, and makes a kind of a *Civil War*.

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ALL the Churches built since the Fire of London are very Commodious and very Handsome ; and the Two Spires of *St. Mary le Bow*, and *St. Brides*, as Stately as any where abroad ; and, I think, that of *Bow* the Fairest I ever saw.

MOST of the Churches before that dreadful Fire had Monuments erected in them to their glorious Queen *Elizabeth* ; and even in the New, some of these Monuments are conserved : The Inscription in that of *St. Mary le Bow* I give you a Part of for its Singularity on that Excellent Princess.

*Spain's Rod, Rome's Ruin, Netherland's Relief,
Earth's Joy, England's Gem, World's Wonder,
(Nature's Chief :*

She was, and is, what can there more be said ?

On Earth the Chief, in Heaven the Second Maid.

THIS Princess's Birth-Day is annually observed still at London, by Ringing of Bells all Day, and Bonfires, and burning of the Pope, &c. at Night.

THE last Birth-Day was kept with great Solemnity ; and I saw the Procession of the Pope, the Devil and the Chevelier *St. George* on that Night, perform'd with great Order ; as also their being burnt at the Expence of the *Hannover-Club* at *Charing-Cross*.

THIS present Queen, as I have told you, hath taken Queen *Elizabeth's* Motto, and doubtless designs to follow her Example; for what-ever we may think abroad, the Bulk of *England* will never undergo the Yoke of *Arbitrary Power*.

THE Cathedral of St. *PAUL* deserves particular Attention, being the finest Out-side of any Church in the World, and might be the finest In-side also, if the Religion of the Country allow'd *Altars* with *Statues*, and Painting at every Pillar, as in *Italy*.

THIS Magnificent Building is situated in an *Area* of full Six Acres of Ground, and environ'd by the Firmest and most Beautiful *Balustrade of Iron*, (erected on a Wall of Free-Stone) that can be imagined; for I cannot make a Parallel, there being nothing of its Kind abroad.

WHAT yet adds to the Beauty of this Church, is, that it is disingaged from all other Buildings; whereas St. *Peter's* at *Rome* being joyned to the *Vatican* on one side, and to the *Canons Apartments* on the other, is so hid, that there is nothing of it to be seen without but its *Portico*. And indeed all *Cathedrals* abroad have a *Cloyster* joyning to them, for the Conveniency of those that serve in the Church, which takes off very much from their Out-side Beauty.

SAINT *Peter's* at *Rome*, you know, lies in a Bottom out of the City; but this Noble Pile is erected on an Eminence in the very Heart of
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the City, and with its Noble *Cupola*, is seen from all the Adjacent Counties, and gives an August and Venerable Aspect to the approaching Travellers: I have not measured this Church, indeed my self, but those that have, say that it's both longer and broader than *St. Peter's at Rome*.

YOU enter towards this Great Church from the *West*, by a Fine Gate between the *Ballustrades*, which leads into the *Area* where the Queen's Statue stands; from whence you ascend to the *Portico*, by the handsomest and broadest Stairs, also inrailed with *Iron*, that ever I saw; for on the first Step Eighty Men at least may mount abreast.

THE *Portico* is supported by Twelve Pillars, and its Gallery by Eight, in which the History of the Conversion of *St. Paul*, and his Preaching, is curiously carved in *Bass-relief*; and on each side of the *Portico* is a very handsome *Tower*; in the one is a great Clock, and the other is designed for a fine Chyme of Bells.

THERE are also Two other Entries into the Church besides this Principal, *viz.* One on the *North*, the other on the *South*-side, to which you likewise ascend by handsome Stairs; and on the *East* from these Gates is the *CHOIR*, which is, indeed, very Noble, and hath this Difference from the *Choirs* abroad, that here above the Bishop's, Dean, and Chapter's Stalls, or Seats, are proper Closets, or Lodges, for the Ladies who come to *Divine Service*, which are Ex-

cellently well contriv'd, and will hold a vast Number of them ; a Conveniency that keeps the Ladies free from the Crouds, which the greatest Quality are necessitated to submit to abroad ; besides, it makes the Appearance in the *Choir* on a Solemn Day the more Noble ; that Circle of Ladies giving a Lustre to a *Holy-Day*.

THE *Choir* is separated from the Body of the Church by a fine *Ballustrade* of *Iron*, curiously wrought ; the *Altar* and *Organ* are very Beautiful ; and its Roof is supported by Six large strong spacious Pillars, as the Body of the Church is with Six more.

THE *Cupola*, which is elevated over the Center of this Great Building, stands upon Eight very large Pillars ; and when you are under it, you are just as if you were under that of *St. Peter's* at *Rome*, with this Difference only, that you see here a fine *Balcony* or Gallery of *Iron* quite round the Inside of this *Cupola*, which there is not at *Rome* ; and when this *Cupola* is painted, as it is designed, it will not be Inferior to the other ; there being also above this Gallery, a Range of Thirty Two Pilasters of the *Corinthian* Order, where every Fourth Inter-Column is adorned with a *Nich* ; and the *Masons* say, that in every Foot of Altitude, the Diameter of the *Cupola* decreaseth an Inch,

THE Out-side of the *Cupola* is supported by Thirty Two Columns, at Twenty Foot distance from the Body of the Church ; and round it,

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is a handsom *Balcony*, or *Gallery*, with a *Ballustrade* of Iron ; and above it, under the *Lanthorn*, is another.

THIS *Lanthorn* is erected on the Top of the *Cupola*, with a fine gilt *Cross* over it, just as the *Globe* and *Cross* are on the Top of the *Regal Crowns*.

UNDERNEATH this Church, is the finest Vault in the World for *Funerals*, and seems to be as another Church. This noble Pile being destroyed by the great Fire in 1666, was begun to be rebuilt in 1675, according to the Model given by that Famous Architect, Sir *Christopher Wren* ; who, after near forty Years continual Fatigue, hath the Honour and Satisfaction of living to see it finished.

I MUST, however, with Submission beg leave to find Fault with one Part of his Architecture, which is, the Adorning this Robust Building with the *Corinthian* and *Composite* Orders ; just as if one should put Embroidery on a Porter, or Carman's Coat,

BESIDES the Cathedral of *St. Paul's*, *COVENT-GARDEN* Church is well worth a Stranger's seeing ; being a large Square-Building much broader than *Westminster-Hall*, or *King's-College-Chappel* in *Cambridge*, and like them, without any Pillars to support its Roof.

ALSO

ALSO the *Chappels* of the several *Inns of Court*, particularly *LINCOLN'S INN*, built upon Pillars; and its Windows finely adorned with the Figures of the *Patriarchs* and *Prophets* on one side, and the *Evangelists* and *Apostles* on the other, painted on Glass at full Length, and full Six Foot in Height each,

ABRAHAM is finely done, with his Hand resting on his Son *Isaac*; *Moses* holding the Two Tables of Stone, containing the Commandments; *Jeremiah* with his Staff and Bottle; *Amos* like a Shepherd; *Ezekiel* like a Priest; King *David* in his Royal Robes, playing on his *Harp*; and all the Rest with their proper Emblems.

SAINT JAMES'S Church, near the Square, being after the Model of the *Jesuits* Churches abroad, is also worth seeing; more especially on a *Holiday* or *Sunday*, when the fine Assembly of Beauties and Quality come there. But there is one great Fault in the Churches here, which we no where meet with abroad, and that is, that a Stranger cannot have a convenient Seat without paying for it; and particularly at this *St. James's*, where it costs one almost as dear as to see a Play. It is pity that the Worship of God should be put to Sale, and that so venerable a Devotion as that of this Church, should be accompany'd with Expence; however, on Week-Days they have the Prayers
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in most Churches at certain Hours in the Morning, as the *Roman Catholicks* have their *Masses*, where a Stranger may join in them for nothing.

SAINT LAWRENCE near *Guild-Hall*, and the *Chappel* contiguous to that *Hall*, are also worth seeing; and most Churches and Chappels are adorned with very good *Organs*, which accompany the *Singing of Psalms*, and play *Voluntaries* to the Assemblies as they go out of the Churches.

THE Prayers and *Responses* are performed with much Reverence, far from the Pageantry of the *Masses* abroad; and no where is the *Lord's-Day* kept with more Strictness than here.

YOU know that abroad, especially in *Popish* Countries, *Sunday* is a Day of Riotousness, Drunkenness, and Play; but here there is no Play, the *Theaters*, and even the *Taverns* and *Coffee-Houses*, are shut up the whole Day, which seems more a Day of *Humiliation* than *Feasting*.

THE Clergy, different from the *Protestant* Countries abroad, are distinguished by a decent Habit, or Gown of *Black-Cloth*, which they wear every where, all the Week and Year round, but are not sub-divided into Party-Colours of *Grey*, *White*, and *Brown*, as in *Popish* Countries: But all from the Bishop to the Curate of the Parish go alike; only those that are dignified, wear *Black Scarfs* about their Necks, and hanging down to their Feet before.

THE

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THE Whole Church of *England* is governed by Two Arch-Bishops, and under them Suffragan Bishops, who in their several Dioceses, divide the Parishes into Synodical Meetings, and so keep the whole in Excellent Order.

THE *Non-conformists* here have also their several Provincial, or Synodical Meetings, even the *Quakers*; and each now seem to support themselves by Out-Preaching, as well as Out-living one another; for it's certain that where a *Clergyman* of the Church of *England* is of good Life, and a good Preacher, the *Dissenters* make no scruple to go and hear him; and those Churches who have such Teachers, are always most crowded.

LONDON is extremely well supply'd with daily *Markets* at proper distances, all the way from *Westminster* to the *Tower*.

THAT of *Leaden-Hall* near the *Royal-Exchange*, is without doubt the best in the whole World. *Don Pedro de Ronquillo*, in seeing it, said to King *Charles* the Second, that he believed there was more Meat sold in that Market alone in a Week, than in all the Kingdom of *Spain* in a Year; and he was a very good Judge.

THE several TRADES for the Convenience of Life, have also settled themselves in

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in Particular Quarters in and about this City.

THE BOOKSELLERS of Antient Books in all Languages, are in *Little-Britain* and *Pater-Noster-Row*; those for *Divinity* and *Classicks* on the *North* side of *St. Paul's Cathedral*; *Law*, *History* and *Plays* about *Temple-bar*; and the *French-Booksellers* in the *Strand*. And the *Printers* are dispersed throughout, at proper Distances.

THE BANQUIERS commonly called *Gold-Smiths*, are in *Lombard-Street*, about the *Royal-Exchange*, and on each side of *Temple-bar*. They may very properly be called *Banquiers* rather than *Gold-Smiths*, for they keep all the private Cash of the Nation; and in every Shop you will see daily Receipts and Payments made as in a *Bank*.

THE Working SILVER-SMITHS are generally in *Silver-Street*, *Foster*, and *Gutter-Lanes*; and there is a very good *French One* in *St. James's-Street*, near the Court.

THE MERCERS or Sellers of *Silks*, are in *Milk-Street*, *Aldermanbury*, and *Ludgate-Hill*, for the City; and in *Covent-Garden*, for the other End of the Town.

AND the WOOLEN-DRAPERS, or Sellers of *Woolen-Cloth*, about the *Exchange*, on the *South* side of *St. Paul's Cathedral*, and in *Covent-Garden*.

THE LINNEN-DRAPERS, are in Cornhill, and Cheapside.

AND the BRASIERS and PEWTERERS, at the Corners of every great Street in and about London.

BUT the most shining of all, after Candle-Light, are the PASTRY-COOKS Shops, finely adorned indeed with Lamps, which add a noble Beauty to all the great Streets. One would wonder how so many Shops of the same Trade, joyning almost to one another, should subsist, and yet they all do, and not a few grow Rich.

NOW I have done with the Churches and Markets, I must tell you that the High-Streets of London are very Spacious, and intermixed with abundance of handfom little Squares, for the Conveniency of Markets, apart from the Hurry and Noise of the Streets; and fitted with Ware-Houses and Cellars for their several Commodities.

THERE are abundance of Houses also with Post-Cochers, which the most Eminent Citizens and Merchants dwell in, not Inferior to some of the best Palaces at the other End of the Town; but these are generally backwards, by reason that the Front of the Streets are all employed for Shops.

THE Street from Aldgate, which is the Extremity of the City on the East side, to Westminster

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minster on the *West*, goes almost in a direct Line, under several Denominations, for full Four Miles; and may be justly called the Longest, and Richest in the World.

IT would be tiresome to give you the *Detail* of every particular one; I will therefore only tell you, that they are generally spacious and well built, besides the *By-Lanes* in a vast Number; which is enough to give you a just Idea of this *Great Mart of the World*.

HOLBOURN, which is the Street on the *North* side of the City, is very spacious; from whence several of the less *Inns of Court* have an Opening; besides the many Ornamental Streets towards the *Fields*, for People of Quality.

ALL these Streets are extremely well guarded by *Watches* (as they are called here) or *Guards*, who carry no other Arms about them, than Clubs, or great Staffs; for as this is a Country of *Drinking*, which often makes Mankind Fool-hardy, Fire-Arms would be of dangerous Consequence, if used here, as they are in the more *Southern* Countries. The Watchmen are generally so Civil as to lead a strayed Stranger to his Lodgings with a *Lanthorn*; and if he prove Mutinous, but not Outragious, they only carry him to their *Round-House*, where he passes the Night at a small Expence, till the Fumes of his Wine are evaporated; but for Vagrant Rogues. they are very useful in carrying them immediately to Prison; and thus they keep the Peace of the City.

I F O R -

I FORGOT to tell you in its proper Place, that besides the *Hackney-Coaches*, you have the Conveniency of going by Water, any where above the Bridge to *Westminster*, in a Boat with *Two Rowers*, for Six-Pence ; and with *One*, for Three-Pence ; and below Bridge downwards to the Extremity of the City that way, the same.

I MUST also observe to you, that *Taverns*, and *Coffee-Houses*, are innumerable ; and what is almost incredible, you can hardly enter into a *Coffee-House* in an Evening, but you find Company, although there be above Eight Thousand of them, by a modest Computation in and about *London*.

Adieu.


LETTER



LETTER XIV.

London, Feb. 22d, 1711.

S I R,

 HIS Letter, you see, follows the last very quickly; and the Reason is, indeed, because I want at least a Month's Repose before I go to Oxford and the Bath, from whence you will next hear from me. However, since I have finished the necessary, though short, Description of this Great City, I think, I ought to give you some Account of its Government also.

I TOLD you that the City of *Westminster* is governed by a *Dean* and *Chapter*, more like an *University* than a *City*. But this, as the *Cities* in *Flanders*, by a *Lord-Mayor*, Court of *Aldermen*, and *Common-Council*; here are also Two *Sheriffs*, like their *Baleus*; and a *Recorder* resembling their *Pensionary*.

P

THIS

THIS CITY is divided into Twenty Six *WARDS*, or *QUARTERS*, each governed by an *Alderman* a-part ; and out of these Twenty Six *Aldermen*, the *Lord-Mayor* is chosen.

CONSIDERING how small and poor some *Towns* in *England* are which send *Members* to *Parliament*, a Stranger might reasonably suppose, that *each* of these Populous *Rich Wards* should at least send One ; but the *Whole City* sends only Four ; which I cannot but think a great Inequality.

I WAS in Town when the *last Election* was made ; and you may easily believe, that considering the Smallness of the Number to be Chosen, and the Prodigious Number of them that are to chuse, with each their separate Views and Interests, that the City must needs be in a very great Ferment on this Occasion.

THE *MAYOR* of *London* is always a *Knight*, and during his *Mayoralty*, a *Lord*, tho' not a *Peer* ; but, however, he is a *Supreme Judge* in all Causes within the City, and the Two *Sheriffs* execute *Justice* under him.

HE appears in Publick in great State, with his *Scarlet Robes*, the *Sword* and *Mace* always carried before him ; and his *Master-Huntsman* in *Green-Velvet*, with other proper Officers attending him.

HE

HE is obliged to keep a very Magnificent Table, for the Entertainment of all Persons of Quality.

AND his *Sword-Bearer's Table* also, in the *Lord Mayor's House*, is a very good one, having above One Thousand Pounds a Year allowed for it.

STOW Records a Story of a *Vintner* of London, Sir Henry Picard by Name, who entertained at Dinner, when he was *Lord-Mayor*, Four Kings together, viz. of *England*, *Scotland*, *France*, and *Cyprus*; and falling to Play after Dinner, the *Lord Mayor* won most of these Kings Money; and there had like to have been a Quarrel between the King of *Cyprus* and him about it; but the *Mayor* proved the more Generous of the Two.

THE SOLEMNITY of the *Lord-Mayor's* going to *Westminster*, to be Sworn into his Office, is not unlike the Manner of the *DOGE* of *Venice's* marrying the Sea, on *Ascension-Day*.

THE Twelve COMPANIES of London, and several others, each in their Sumptuous large Barges, accompany the *Lord-Mayor* thither by Water, with *Trumpets*, and *Hautboys* sounding; and *Streamers* with the Royal Arms, and those of the several Companies flourishing;

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and after their Return, the *Lord-Mayor* and *Aldermen* make a handsome *Procession* through the City in their *Formalities* on Horseback, attended by the *Chief Nobility*, and *Officers of the Crown*; together with all the *Judges* and *Serjeants at Law*, to the *Hall*, where his *Lordship* keeps his *Mayoralty*, and where he gives a Noble Entertainment with great Solemnity. And this is called the *Lord-Mayor's SHOW*.

THE City COMPANIES do also go to their respective *Halls*, where they have a Splendid Dinner provided for them.

THERE is also a *MILITARY* Power, called the *Lieutenancy of London*, which direct the several Regiments, and Artillery, belonging to this City : The Colonels of them are always out of the *Aldermen*.

BUT there is One Custom which I must Remark to you, that is no where practis'd with that Rigor as in *England* ; and proves also very Unhappy to many a forlorn Stranger ; and that is, the *Arresting* under pretence of *Debt*.

You know that abroad, if you have a pretence upon any Gentleman, you Sue him before a *Judge*, who either, through the Justice of your Demand, or his not Appearing, gives you a Power of his Person : But here you may Arrest a Man for any Sum you please, without having any Thing to show for it ; and if the Poor

Unfor-

Unfortunate Man cannot give *Bail* (which a *Stranger* is not to be supposed very capable of) he must go to *Prison*, the only *Place* of *Cruelty* and *Barbarity* in *England*, and more *Brutal* than any of their *Kind* abroad.

MANY a *Poor German* hath been *Bit* by an *Ordinary*, or his *Taylor*, after this *Manner*; they have suffered the *Poor Wretch* to run in *Debt*, made him an *Extravagant Bill*, and then *arrested* him, and so force him to pay their *Demands*.

AND, indeed, it seems to me very *Unreasonable* for a *Sheriff* to give a *Man* the *Power* of my *Person*, before he knows whether I owe him a *Farthing* or not.

BUT in answer to this, they tell you, that *Summoning* one before a *Judge*, is giving him warning to run away, or at least to be upon his *Guard*; so that in so vast a *Compass* as this great *City* makes, there is a *Necessity* of entring into more *Extraordinary Measures* than *abroad*, where a *Gentleman* cannot conceal himself so well as here; and shews that there is hardly a *Convenience* without its *Inconvenience*.

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I NOW take my Leave of you for Two Months ; and, I hope, you'll believe that whatever Pleasure I may have had in Surveying London, it hath been a great Fatigue to me to be so particular ; however, you see, I have kept my Word with you, and am,

Dear S I R,

Your most Humble Servant.

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